

APUBLICATION OF The Washington Post | WWW.WASHINGTONPOST.COM/EXPRESS | DECEMBER 23-26, 2004 | >FREE

Veekend



Back in Gear: Nationals officials, vendors rush to get ready for the April opener | 13

Hot Lava: Active volcanos may dot Martian landscape | 4

Lone Manger:

Nativity scenes reflect varied values and customs | 32



ENTERTAINMENT

Who's Holiday? Little Cindy Lou Who loves the holidays, but we've got events, ideas and listings for the less Christmasly inclined as well.





Weather > Windy, Rain



Suicide Bomber Suspected dining hall," Gen. Richard General: Attacker walked into Mosul tent with explosives many other U.S. military facilities, Iraqis do BAGHDAD, IRAQ | The U.S. military said

Wednesday that a suicide bomber likely carried out the explosion at a U.S. base near Mosul, spraying a crowded mess tent with small pellets and killing 22 people — nearly all of them Americans.

The announcement raised questions about how the attacker infiltrated the base, which is surrounded by blast walls and barbed wire and guarded by U.S. troops. However, as in a variety of jobs at the base, including cleaning, cooking, construction and office duties.

The apparent sophistication of Tuesday's operation — the deadliest single attack on U.S. troops since the war began — indicated the attacker probably had inside knowledge of the base's layout. The blast came at lunchtime.

"We have had a suicide bomber apparently strap something to his body ... and go into a



Myers, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told reporters at the Pentagon.

Lt. Gen. Thomas Metz. commander of the multinational force in Iraq, ordered an investigation. Troops found "no physical

evidence of a rocket, mortar, or other type of indirect fire weapon," according to a statement. SLOBODAN LEKIC (AP)

SANTA CLAUS | CLEARED FOR TAKEOFF



CLAUS FOR CELEBRATION: Federal Aviation Administration officials joined Santa Claus at Reagan National Airport on Wednesday to approve his annual Christmas Eve flight. After a sleigh inspection, transportation chief Norman Mineta signed a waiver allowing Santa to roam the skies freely.

Metro Fires Driver in Nov. Train Crash

WASHINGTON | The driver of a subway train that crashed into another train has been fired for what Metro called "gross violation" of procedures, the transit agency announced Wednesday.

Lamont Lewis was at the helm of an otherwise empty train on Nov. 3 when it rolled backward into the Woodley Park station in Northwest Washington. It slammed into a passenger train that was stopped in the station. Part of the empty train wound up atop the other train. Twenty people were hurt.

"The train functioned properly as it was designed to do. The brakes performed properly," Metro spokeswoman Lisa Farbstein said of the agency's own investigation.

Lewis "did not brake the train," Farbstein said.

Lewis was fired Tuesday without severance. He joined Metro in November 1998 as a bus driver, and had been operating trains for 10 months before the crash. MICHAEL W. KAHN (AP)



publish on Friday, Dec. 24, in obser

BEER | Booze With Your Moos Ranchers in Norway. lowa, are spiking their cattle feed with beer to help their cows' health. So far, the herds are lapping it up, said cattleman Robert Miller. In fact, they hesitate to eat when their feed isn't mixed with beer, Miller

said. A nearby distributor gives beer that has outlived its shelf life to Fisher's Feed and Fertilizer to mix with the feed, said owner Jack Fisher. He said beer has vitamins, minerals, carbohydrates and proteins that benefit the cattle's diet. (AP) EyeOpeners | Page 2

eye Openers

SLEEPING

Reproach the Bench

A judge in Calgary, Canada, who fell asleep during a hearing Dec. 1 apologized Monday to the lawyers and the accused drug dealer who was testifying, but refused to declare a mistrial, the Canadian Press reported. Nicholas Chan was convicted during the summer

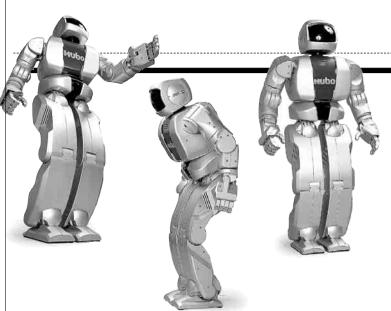
of drug trafficking. The judge's snoozing during Chan's sentencing hearing led lawyer Thomas Engel to file an application for a mistrial. Judge John Moore, 73, said he had a sleeping problem and did not know how long he was asleep. He rejected a mistrial because, he said, he reviewed evidence given while he was dozing and determined it wasn't crucial to the case. (EXPRESS)

AUTHORITY

Shave and a Pay Cut

A Walpole, Mass., state prison ethics board got snippy over an official's demand for a barber. Steven Silva, formersuperintendentofoperations at MCI-Cedar Junction, was fined \$1,000 and demoted on Tuesday by the Massachusetts State Ethics Commission for using his position to have a lower-ranking prison

employee come to his home and cut his hair. Silva, who was then second-in-command at the prison, was recovering from surgery in March when he called Lt. Raymond Turcotte at work and instructed him to drive 15 miles to his home. Silva then called the shift commander to arrange for Turcotte to leave early. Turcotte signed out a pair of hair clippers from prison, drove to Silva's home and cut Silva's hair, the commission said. (AP)



ROBOTS

Shake It Like an Android Picture

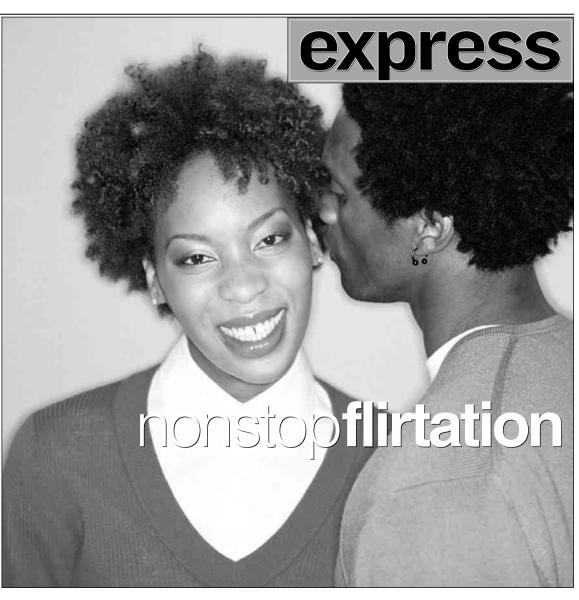
It's hot out the lab and ready to party. South Korea's humanoid robot "HUBO," invented by the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology at its research center in Taejon, is the country's first robot creation that can walk with two legs — at a speed of three-quarters of a mile per hour — and freely move all fingers, Reuters reported. The 4-foot, 121-pound HUBO also uses its 41 joints to dance. (EXPRESS)

MUSIC

No More Monk Business

A Cambodian government order banning a pop tune about a Buddhist monk falling in love is unlikely to affect the song's sales, a production manager said Tuesday. Officials pulled the plug on radio and television broadcasts of "Wrongly Quitting Monkhood for Love," saying it tarnishes the reputation of Cambodian Buddhism. Information Minister Khieu Kanharith said last week that the song's content affects the dignity of monks striving to sacrifice their physical and mental strength to devote themselves to Buddhist teaching. The song, by singer Heng Bunleap, was released as a video CD, which shows scenes of a shaven-headed monk hugging and kissing a girl while bathing in a pond near a pagoda. lep Chimeng, manager of the studio that produced the video CDs, said 4,000 copies had already been sold. About 90 percent of Cambodia's population is Buddhist. (AP)





LONE STARS: MTV's "The Real World" is headed to Austin, Texas, for its upcoming 16th season, executive producer Jon Murray said Wednesday. Other contenders included Washington, Atlanta and "somewhere in Montana," he said.



Nation

In Brief

WASHINGTON

Rumsfeld Offers Defense Against Torrent of Criticism

Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld, stung by criticism that he's insensitive to the needs of the troops and their families, offered



Rumsfeld

his most impassioned defense at a news conference Wednesday. The normally stoic Rumsfeld said when he meets wounded soldiers or relatives

of those killed in battle, "their grief is something I feel to my core." "I am truly saddened by the thought that anyone could have the impression that I, or others here, are doing anything other than working urgently to see that the lives of the fighting men and women are protected and are cared for in every way humanly possible," he said. (AP)

NEW YORK

Kerik Resigns From Giuliani's Consulting Firm

Former police commissioner and one-time Cabinet nominee Bernard Kerik said Wednesday he will leave Giuliani Partners, former Mayor Rudolph Giuliani's consulting firm. At a news conference in Manhattan, Kerik said he had apologized to Giuliani for being a distraction because of his messy withdrawal as a candidate to head the Department of Homeland Security. Kerik had been CEO of Giuliani-Kerik LLC. (AP)

New Forest Rules Finalized

Local managers will have more discretion to OK logging projects

WASHINGTON | Managers of the nation's 155 national forests will have more discretion to approve logging and other commercial projects without lengthy environmental reviews under a new Bush administration initiative.

The long-awaited rules, announced Wednesday, overhaul application of the landmark 1976 National Forest Management Act, which sets guidelines for managing 191 million acres of national forests and grasslands and protecting wildlife there.

Forest Service Associate Chief Sally Collins said the new rules will allow forest managers to respond more quickly to changing conditions, such as wildfires, and emerging threats such as invasive species.

The complex forest management rules were last updated in the 1970s, and officials long have complained that detailed analyses required under the law take up to seven years to complete. Under the new rule, forest plan revisions could be completed within two to three years, officials said.

Environmentalists reacted with skepticism, saying the administra-

tion was catering to the timber and paper industries and weakening standards for protecting endangered or threatened species.

The new plan gives regional forest managers more discretion to approve logging, drilling and mining operations without having to conduct formal scientific investigations known as environmental impact statements.

Forest Service officials say the idea is to make forest planning more responsive to changing conditions.

The rules take effect after they are published in the Federal Register, which is expected next week, MATTHEW DALY (AP)

Recount In Wash. Intensifies

Democrat holds lead in close governor's race by only 10 votes

OLYMPIA, WASH. | More than seven weeks after the election, Democrat Christine Gregoire took the lead in Washington's governor's race Wednesday, gaining a 10-vote advantage over Republican Dino Rossi after King County officials announced results of a hand recount.

Gregoire, the loser by increasingly slim margins in the first two counts, could claim an even wider margin of victory thanks to a state Supreme Court decision Wednesday that requires more than 700 belatedly discovered King County ballots to be counted.

King County, a Democratic stronghold and the last county to finish counting ballots, is expected to certify its results Thursday.

Republicans vowed to seek out Rossi voters whose ballots were disqualified and said they will fight to have those votes counted.

"This battle is not over," State GOP Chairman Chris Vance said. "This election is not over."

Gregoire, 57, a three-term attorney general, was the favorite going into the election against Rossi, 45, a real estate agent and former state senator. (AP)

CHICAGO | SANTA'S HELPER



EXTRA HANDS: Volunteer Tiffany Allendorfer sorts through toys collected for the Marines' Toys for Tots program in Chicago on Wednesday. Many soldiers who normally run the drive are serving overseas, so civilians have stepped in to help.

GREAT GIFT! 1 DAY SALE! or FIREPLACES INSTALLED*

Today Only! Thursday, Dec. 23[™]!



*Must purchase logs or fireplace with new gas line installed. Stock items only Washington Gas Platinum Fireplace Dealer Cyprus is your one-stop shop handling installation, inspection, permits. No subcontractors involved.

NATURAL GAS AND PROPANE FIREPLACES

*GUARANTEED INSTALLATION BY NEW YEAR'S!



Showroom Hours: Mon.-Fri. 10AM-7PM Sat. 10AM-6PM

7525 Richmond Hwy Alexandria, VA 3 miles south of I-495 & Old Town Alexandria







No Natural Gas? No Problem!

Cyprus Air can also install a small propane tank behind your chimney so you can enjoy the beauty, comfort and warmth of gas logs that require no venting. All the heat stays in the room. A large natural flame uses a minimum of gas and offers money-saving 99% fuel efficiency. You can burn the logs with the damper open or closed. A closed damper will keep the room heated. No soot or ashes to worry about. Our sets include an oxygen depletion sensor for safe, unvented operation and is design-certified by CSA.

Nation

"I have had time to think, time to write, time to exercise, time to not eat the bad food, and ... [to] contemplate the future." — Martha Stewart, in a Web entry from prison. She also called for sentencing reform, particularly for drug offenders.



New Evidence of Volcanos on Mars

Photographs taken by orbiter offer new clues about planet's activity

NEW YORK | Photographs taken by a spacecraft orbiting Mars indicate that active volcanos may still exist on the red planet, further eroding its image as a dead world and offering prime sites to prospect for signs of Martian life.

Images from the European Space Agency's Mars Express Orbiter indicate geologically recent volcanic activity in the summit craters of five Martian volcanos, with some areas showing activity as recently as 4 million years ago. Though long in human terms, 4 million years amounts to the most recent 1 percent of Martian history — a strong suggestion that the planet retains a capacity for volcanic activity.

"I suspect that as we get more

everest-institute.com

spacecraft in orbit that it will increase the chances of seeing some kind of active eruption," said Jim Head, a professor of geological sciences at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island. He is one of more than 40 scientists who contributed to an analysis of the images to be published in the British journal Nature.

In the last few years researchers have found abundant evidence of ice at the Martian surface and signs that water flowed there in the past — most recently with the United States' twin robotic rovers still exploring Mars.

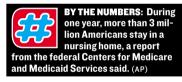
There have also been signs of recent volcanic activity. The latest work suggests that water could still bubble up in hydrothermal springs on some of the planet's spectacular volcanic peaks.

The Mars Express Orbiter has been taking images of the planet since January. MATT CRENSON (AP)

WINTER WEATHER | FIGHTING STANCE



SNOW BLOWN: Kristen Greathouse gets hit with a flying snowball in Columbus, Ind., on Wednesday as a winter storm battered states from the Plains thorough the Midwest, causing some slippery traveling conditions.



Accredited Member, ACICS

Cloned-to-Order Cat Makes Debut

SAN FRANCISCO | The first clonedto-order pet sold in the United States is named Little Nicky, an eight-week-old kitten delivered to a Texas woman saddened by the loss of a cat she had owned for 17 years

The kitten cost its owner \$50,000 and was cloned from a beloved cat, named Nicky, that died last year. Nicky's owner banked the cat's DNA, which was used to create the clone.

By May, the company, Sausalitobased Genetic Savings and Clone, said it hopes to have produced the world's first cloned dog — a much more lucrative market than cats.

Commercial interests already are cloning prized cattle for about \$20,000 each. (AP)



"Little Nicky," a successfully cloned cat, was sold to a Texas woman for \$50,000.

Fit Beats Out Fat in New Study

Being overweight can take years off your life even if you exercise

Being fit but fat isn't good enough. Excess weight, all by itself, can take years off your life, even if you get plenty of exercise, a study found.

"There has been some suggestion that if you are particularly active, you don't have to worry about your body weight, about your diet. That's very misleading," said the report's lead author, Dr. Frank Hu of the Harvard School of Public Health.

The study of 116,500 women was published in Thursday's New England Journal of Medicine and was based on questionnaires used in the Nurses' Health Study, which has followed female nurses since 1976, and on medical records.

Women who were physically active but obese had almost twice the risk of death of women were both active and lean. Women who were sedentary but slender were 55 percent more likely to die. Women who were both sedentary and obese were almost 2 1/2 times more likely to die. Janet Mcconnaughey (AP)



The Washington Post

Toy Trauma: The complicated, modern-day toys most children want for Christmas are a far cry from the simple Lincoln Logs of days gone by. | *Style*

Painkiller Panic: From coast to coast, a cascade of warnings about popular anti-inflammatory painkillers is triggering waves of confusion and anxiety. | *Page A1*

Super Sized: Across the Washington area, large churches are staging ever more imaginative, elaborate and expensive Christmas celebrations. | *Page A1*



THE RIGGS NO PENALTY CD. ONE SIZE FITS ALL.



with, well, no penalty. This is just one way we're making it easy to make the right

will earn you a great rate – and give you the options you're looking for to save the smart way. Our No Penalty CD comes with the option to make one early withdrawal

choices for your money. To learn more stop by one of our banking centers, call, or visit our website. Riggs No Penalty CD just another way to say – Happy Holidays!



*Current as of December 6, 2004. Minimum \$500 to open and earn the advertised No Penalty Annual Percentage Yield (APY). No penalty applies to withdrawals made after 7 days of opening a CD account. Offer subject to change without notice. ©2004 Riggs Bank N.A. Member FDIC.

Nation



BOUNCED AROUND: A New Jersey woman has been indicted for passing more than 700 phony checks totalling more than \$120,000, the U.S. attorney in Pittsburgh said Tuesday. Since 1999 they were used at stores in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia.

Returning Troops Struggle to Adjust

Shaking memories of combat proves tough for GIs back from Iraq

After coming home from a monthslong tour in Iraq, Curtis Mills recalls driving his daughter to a recital and panicking when he saw a radio tower's blinking red lights.

"For a second, I almost velled out 'Tracers at 11 o'clock!'" Mills said sheepishly during a break from shoveling snow from his driveway in Shapleigh, Maine. "Then I realized it was just an antenna."

For soldiers of the Army Reserve's 94th Military Police Company, which was mobilized for a grueling 20 months, returning to cozy hometowns across New England has been a struggle with the unexpected.



COMING HOME: Curtis Mills of Shapleigh, Maine, recently back from Iraq where his company, the Army Reserve's 94th Military Police Company, did a 20-month tour.

Everyday sounds such as backfiring cars send them into panicked alert. They react by scanning rooftops for snipers or scouring crowds for anything out of the ordinary.

Heightened sensitivity, sleeplessness and hair-trigger responsiveness to unexpected sounds and sights are all symptoms of combat stress, psychologists say.

"When you're in a war environment for a long period of time, that can affect you," said Capt. Bobby Sidell, a clinical psychologist at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y.

The military offers psychological services to combat veterans, but Sidell said soldiers often are unaware of their need for them when they return or get lost in the

Richard Stegeman, 35, a cardiovascular specialist from Dayton, Maine, served as a medic for the 94th, When Stegeman returned home, he said he was distracted by cell phones, which insurgents used to detonate roadside bombs.

"Even though we've been home for four months, sometimes it doesn't feel that I'm even here at all," Stegeman said. RYAN LENZ (AP)

Gotti Brother Convicted in Plot To Kill Turncoat

NEW YORK | John Gotti's older brother was convicted Wednesday of trying to have Mafia turncoat Salvatore "Sammy the Bull" Gravano killed as payback for his testimony against the Dapper Don.

The verdict against Peter Gotti, a former sanitation worker, by an anonymous jury capped a trial that featured testimony from several informants and videotaped prison conversations between the Gotti brothers.

Federal prosecutors argued that Peter Gotti, 65, sought revenge against Gravano for his devastating testimony at John Gotti's racketeering and murder trial. The boss of the Gambino crime family was convicted in 1992 and died in prison a decade later. (AP)



Personal Finance. Mondays.

express

XX247

Cars. Wednesdays.

express







NASAL BLOCKADE: A bill approved Tuesday would ban the sale of shoe glue in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, because it is often being used as an inhalant, Reuters reported. The ban would even apply to shoemakers until regulations are set up.



World

Ex-Hostages Describe Ordeal in Iraq

Two reporters back in Paris after four months in captivity

PARIS | Two French journalists freed from captivity in Iraq arrived home Wednesday and described a harrowing four-month ordeal.

Smiling and apparently healthy, Christian Chesnot and Georges Malbrunot walked off the plane at a military airport outside Paris and into the arms of sobbing family members. President Jacques Chirac personally greeted the reporters.

"We lived through a difficult experience — sometimes very difficult — but we never lost hope," said Malbrunot. Part of their sur-



Malbrunot, right, and Chesnot talk to reporters after returning Wednesday.

vival strategy, he said, was to dissociate themselves from the United States. "We immediately played the French journalist card" and repeatedly reminded the captors

that "France was against the war," he said. "That allowed us to show we were not pro-American."

Chesnot said the two were never mistreated. "The conditions were rather good," he said.

Chesnot, 38, of Radio France Internationale, and Malbrunot, 41, of the daily Le Figaro, disappeared Aug. 20 along with their Syrian driver as they headed to Najaf. The reporters, who were released Tuesday, had been held by a group calling itself the Islamic Army of Iraq, which has killed hostages in the past.

Paris has said it negotiated an end to the ordeal without paying a ransom, but officials have refused to divulge details. JOCELYN GECKER (AP)



WOUNDED: Air Force medical personnel carry a wounded U.S. soldier on a stretcher out of a C-141 aircraft at Ramstein airbase in Germany on Wednesday.

Ukrainian Braces His Supporters for Re-Vote

Yushchenko: 'Forces' planning to disrupt new runoff on Sunday

KIEV, UKRAINE | Opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko praised thousands of his supporters Wednesday night, telling a roaring, orange-clad crowd that they changed the country without bloodshed — but he also warned of trouble during this weekend's presidential runoff.

"The vote on Dec. 26 will not be an easy political walk," Yushchenko said in Independence Square to mark one month since the beginning of the "orange revolution" protests. "There are some forces preparing to disrupt and they are preparing brigades, groups who are readying to come to Kiev."

Yushchenko did not say who was plotting against Sunday's courtordered vote, but told supporters at a rally in Kiev that he was "calling on your courage to defend the results of the election."

The call echoed an appeal he made after the Nov. 21 runoff that his rival Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych won until the Supreme Court annulled the vote, citing fraud. It ordered a new vote for Sunday.

Fears of violence have been high ahead of the new balloting, with rumors swirling that pro-Yanukovych supporters are being given weapons and poised to head to Kiev after the vote. Yanukovych's campaign staffhas repeatedly denied the allegations. MARA D. BELLABY (AP)

INDIA | CHRISTMAS



GATHER 'ROUND: A man decked out in a Santa costume celebrates with students at their Bhopal school's Christmas festival. Christians make up a third of India's population.

U.S. Forces Fan Out Across Mosul

Hundreds of troops enter city after deadly attack

BAGHDAD | U.S. troops and armored vehicles clamped down on Mosul a day after an attack on a nearby base in which 22 people were killed — almost all of them Americans. The military said a suicide bomber probably carried out the blast, the deadliest single attack on U.S. troops since the war began.

About 50 people — most of them injured soldiers from Mosul — arrived on a transport plane at Ramstein Air Base in Germany for treatment at nearby Landstuhl Regional Medical Center. At least eight were in critical condition, a Landstuhl spokeswoman said.

An Associated Press reporter saw almost no cars or people on the streets of Mosul Wednesday and most schools in the city were closed, although a formal curfew was not declared.

U.S. forces blocked Mosul's five bridges over the Tigris River that link the western and eastern sectors of the city, while hundreds of troops spread out across several neighborhoods. Helicopter gunships clattered overhead and jets flew high above the city.

The dead included 18 Americans — 13 service members and five civilian contractors — and three Iraqi National Guard members and one unidentified non-U.S. citizen, the U.S. military command said.

There was little apparent sympathy for the dead Americans on the streets of Mosul, particularly among its large population of Sunni Arabs. SLOBODAN LEKIC (AP)

Annan: U.N.'s Sudan Plan 'Not Working'

UNITED NATIONS | Secretary-General Kofi Annan called on the U.N. Security Council Wednesday to urgently reassess its efforts to end nearly two years of conflict and bloodshed in Sudan's western Darfur region.

Both Annan and the council expressed deep concern Tuesday

at the deteriorating security situation in the vast region where rebels and government-backed forces have repeatedly broken pledges to stop fighting. But the secretary-general went further Wednesday, saying "quite frankly our approach isn't working."

The council on Tuesday con-

demned repeated cease-fire violations and warned it would consider "a full range of options" to pressure both sides to comply with council resolutions if fighting doesn't stop. But no further meeting has been scheduled this month.

The conflict in Darfur has killed 70,000 people and driven 1.8 million from their homes since February 2003. EDITH M. LEDERER (AP)

OTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN IRAQ

→ Contrack International, a global construction company, has pulled out of its \$325 million contract to rebuild Iraq's transportation systems, deciding it was too dangerous to stay, a spokesman for the U.S.-led reconstruction effort said.

→ All four water purification plants in Fallujah are still not working after last month's U.S.led offensive that left the city in ruins, a spokesperson for the Red Cross said on Wednesday. (AP)



THEY WON'T TALK BACK: Italy, with one of the lowest birth rates in Europe, now has more dogs and cats in its homes than children, according to a study published in La Repubblica. It found in homes at least 14.5 million dogs and cats, and 8.7 million children under age 15, Reuters reported.

British PM to Host Forum on Mideast

On visit to West Bank, Blair offers to preside over scaled-down talks

RAMALLAH, WEST BANK | British Prime Minister Tony Blair offered Wednesday to host a one-day Mideast conference in the new year to help rehabilitate the battered Palestinian Authority, encourage reform and serve as a bridge to renewed peace talks, stalled by four years of violence.

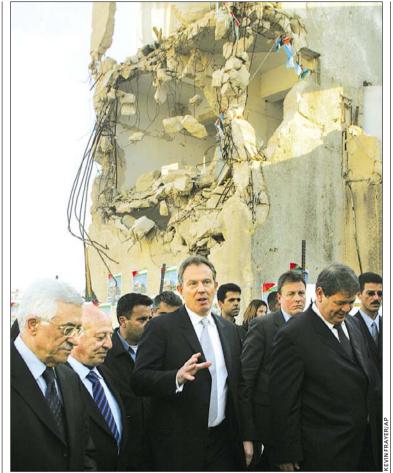
Blair, the highest-ranking visitor to the West Bank since Yasser Arafat's death on Nov. 11, said a growing sense of hope must now be translated into action, while endorsing Israel's precondition for peace talks — an end to Palestinian attacks — and the Palestinian goal of an independent state.

Wednesday was the first time Blair talked in public about his proposed London conference, considerably scaling down the expectations of many who expected a full-blown British Middle East peace push.

Instead, Blair said, the conference would be a one-day affair in March dealing only with reforms in the Palestinian administration and additional aid, saying that a conference to discuss substantive issues "is not for me to undertake."

Interim Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas said he welcomed the idea of the conference, although the Palestinians had hoped for a broader agenda that dealt with key disputes with Israel over Jerusalem, the fate of Palestinian refugees and the borders of a Palestinian state.

Although the scaled-down conference fits Israel's wishes, Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon said his country would not attend. "Since the subject deals only with Palestinian issues," Sharon said after meeting Blair, "together we reached the conclusion that there is no need for Israeli participation."



Blair, center, interim Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas, left, and Palestinian Prime Minister Ahmed Qureia, second from left, walk together at the late Yasser Arafat's former headquarters in the West Bank town of Ramallah on Wednesday.

U.S. Firm Admits Releasing Mercury At Indonesian Mine JAKARTA | A U.S. mining company admitted Wednesday that it released tons of mercury into the air and water over a period of years at one of its Indonesian gold mines, but denied that it had any health impact on people. The acknowledgment by



P:(202) 462-2322 / F: (202)

In Brief

SAUDI ARABIA

Saudis to Withdraw Envoy From Libya Over Alleged Plot

Saudi Arabia said Wednesday it was withdrawing its ambassador to Libya in what the kingdom called a measured response to reports Tripoli had plotted to assassinate its crown prince. Libya's Foreign Ministry called the charge "falsified." The alleged plot against Crown Prince Abdullah was first outlined by U.S. investigators in their case against an American Muslim activist who was convicted of having illegal business dealings with Libya. (AP)

JAPAN

Man Infected With Bird Flu In Country's 1st Human Case

Japan reported its first case of bird flu in a human on Wednesday — a man who caught the disease while disinfecting poultry on a Kyoto farm. Bird flu has swept through farms across Asia, forcing officials to cull more than 100 million birds. It has also jumped to humans, killing 32 people in Thailand and Vietnam. There has been no proof of human-to-human transmission, but experts worry it could mutate into a version easily spread among people. (AP)

IRAN

Official Says 10 Detained For Nuclear Espionage

Iran has arrested more than 10 people on charges of revealing its nuclear secrets to Israeli and U.S. intelligence agencies, Intelligence Minister Ali Yunesi said. The United States accuses Iran of running a secret program to build a nuclear bomb. Iran says its nuclear programs are purely for energy. (AP)

TANZANIA

Newmont Mining Corp. is the lat-

est setback for the company in its six-

month battle to defend against pol-

lution allegations. Indonesian police

have accused its local subsidiary of

dumping heavy metals into Buyat Bay, causing residents to develop

A company spokesman, Doug

Hock, said the mine released 17

tons of mercury into the air over five

five Newmont executives, including

an American, accusing them of cor-

porate crimes. MICHAEL CASEY (AP)

years and 16 tons into the water.

Indonesia plans to put on trial

skin diseases and tumors.

Court Acquits Man Charged In U.S. Embassy Bombing

A High Court judge on Wednesday found a Tanzanian innocent of conspiracy to commit murder in the 1998 bombing of the U.S. Embassy in Dar es Salaam. Rashid Saleh Hemed, a 34-year-old car parts dealer, was the first person charged after the Aug. 7, 1998 attacks in Tanzania and Nairobi, Kenya, that left hundreds dead and were blamed on al Qaeda. His trial began in 2000. (AP)

RENT CONTROL: Blockbuster Inc. is cutting the cost of its monthly online rental, mail-delivery service to \$14.99 from \$17.49, the latest salvo in a price war with Netflix Inc. and Wal-Mart Stores Inc., which charge \$17.99 and \$15.54, respectively.



Money

S&P 500

+7.4

+13.2



A woman shops for Microsoft products at a store in Brussels on Wednesday. A European Union court ruled the company must divulge some trade secrets to rivals.

EU Says Microsoft Must Share Code

Court: Produce Windows without Media Player

BRUSSELS, BELGIUM | The European Union struck at the commercial backbone of Microsoft's global software empire on Wednesday — forcing the company for the first time to strip its Windows platform of a popular feature to give competitors a better shot at success.

An EU court ruled that Microsoft must immediately divulge some trade secrets to competitors and produce a version of its flagship Windows operating system without its digital Media Player, the program that plays music and video.

The ruling thwarts Microsoft's bid to delay implementation of the EU's antitrust decision in March demanding changes in the software giant's business practices and fining it a record \$666 million.

The European Court of First Instance found that Microsoft "has not shown that it might suffer serious and irreparable damage as a result of implementation of the contested decision."

The company said it would start shipping Windows without Media Player within weeks.

The implications for Microsoft are sizable since software that plays media files is increasingly in demand. There is also the question of precisely what computer code Microsoft will share with competitors so that their programs work better on networks run by Microsoft server software.

The company said it was still considering whether to appeal. RAF CASERT (AP)

Dow, S&P Both at Highest Since 'OI

NEW YORK | Wall Street extended its record-setting rally Wednesday as a sharp drop in oil prices and a surprise jump in the U.S. gross domestic product encouraged buying. The Dow Jones industrials and the Standard & Poor's 500 index both reached new 3½-year highs.

The market's buying momentum surged when crude oil futures plummeted after the Energy Department

reported an increase of 2.1 million barrels in the petroleum reserve. A barrel of light crude was later quoted at \$44.24, down \$1.52.

Wall Street also welcomed the Commerce Department's thirdquarter GDP reading, which rose to 4 percent from previous estimates of 3.9 percent.

The Dow rose 56.46 to 10,815.89, surpassing the 3½-year high reached Tuesday. It last closed above 10,800 on June 13, 2001. The S&P was up 4.12 at 1,209.57, beating its 3 1/2-year high set last week. (AP)

Market Action

New Yor	k Stock I	Exchang	e	NASDAQ Stock Market					
Gainers stock	LAST	DAILY Change	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE	Gainers stock	LAST	DAILY Change	DAILY Percent Change		
ChrisBnk	18.69	+1.91	+11.4	ImmuCell	9.39	+5.14	+120.9		
AmWest	6.80	+.53	+8.5	IntegMed	9.31	+2.11	+29.3		
Head NV	3.85	+.27	+7.5	Biolmaging	5.15	+1.13	+28.1		
MEMC	12.87	+.88	+7.3	ZiCorp	6.74	+1.44	+27.2		
CtlAir B	13.42	+.85	+6.8	ProximA rs	5.27	+1.09	+26.1		
Losers				Losers					
Solectrn	5.25	78	-12.9	Phazar	22.33	-4.12	-15.6		
AmerisBrg	57.09	-4.92	-7.9	INTAC	13.42	-2.29	-14.6		
CmclMtl	48.52	-3.05	-5.9	SandsReg	15.43	-2.40	-13.5		
BBarrett n	31.69	-1.76	-5.3	ConradInd	2.09	32	-13.2		
KemetCp	8.30	45	-5.1	SupVsn	3.85	57	-12.9		

Rates			Currency (Dollars in foreign currency)						
	CURRENT	PREVIOUS WEEK		TODAY	PREVIOUS DAY	YEAR AGO			
Prime Rate	5.25	5.00	British Pound	.5224	.5187	.5671			
Fed Funds close	2.25	2.25	Canadian Dollar	1.2442	1.2304	1.3314			
3-month	2.17	2.17	European Euro	.7473	.7478	.8057			
2-year	3.00	2.95	Japanese Yen	104.08	104.38	107.51			
10-year	4.20	4.08	Mexican Peso	11.1620	11.1815	11.3020			
30-year	4.83	4.71	Taiwanese Dollar	32.28	32.33	34.05			

+56.46	+6	.12	+4.12
+0.52 10815.89	-	.28 7.03	+0.34 1209.57
Bank Sto	cks		
STOCK	LAST	DAILY Change	YEAR TO DATE PERCENT CHANG
ABN Amro	26.16	+.17	+11.4
BcBilVArg	17.34	+.12	+25.2
BcoSnCH	12.10	+.03	+.7
BkofAm s	46.80	+.49	+16.4
Barclay	44.49	+.08	+22.4
CredSuiss	41.80	+.35	+15.1
DeutschBk	85.95	+.10	+4.5
HSBC	85.10	+.31	+8.0
JPMorgCh	39.03	04	+7.3
LloydTSB	36.26	+.48	+11.4
MitsuTkyo 9.6		+.18	+23.1
UBS AG	83.50	+.90	+22.8

31.52

NASDAO

Careers. Mondays.



US Bancrp

Enter the Express Football Contest



Think you're a football expert? Then enter our online contest and prove it. If you pick the highest number of winning teams for this weekend's pro football games, you'll win the \$100 weekly prize (and bragging rights, of course). In the event of a tie, a winner will be chosen randomly.

To enter, go to www.readexpress.com/contests

All entries must be received by midnight on Friday.
Only one entry per person will be accepted.

express

And remember to follow pro football action all season long in Express. Get a full preview of all the weekend's games every Friday, followed by a full wrap-up every Monday.



Sponsored by **ROSENTHAL**

233

The number of cases of whooping cough, or pertussis, reported in Virginia this year, compared with 91 at the same time last year, state health officials said Wednesday. Symptoms include low-grade fever and a progressively bad cough.

Driver Dies in Va. Tanker Explosion

Speeding blamed for fatal accident on I-395

ARLINGTON, VA. | Fiery explosions and a more than 50-foot-high wall of flame shattered the predawn calm as a tanker truck flipped over and exploded Wednesday. The driver died in the inferno, which incinerated the truck and closed a major commuter route into the District for much of the morning rush hour.

"You can't even recognize it anymore, it's basically a pile of steel," Arlington County Chief Fire Marshall Carol Saulnier said of the truck's condition.

Around 3:40 a.m., the driver of a 8,500 gallon gasoline tanker exited northbound Interstate 395 on the ramp to Washington Boulevard.

"He just took the ramp too fast, and when he rounded the bottom lost control of it and it overturned," said Sgt. Wallace Bouldin, a Virginia State Police spokesman. Late Wednesday, Bouldin identified the driver as Michael Jerome Guess, 31, of Rockville, Md. He worked for Quarles Trucking in Manassas.

Gas from the burning tanker flowed into storm drains, sparking smaller fires.

The blasts — less than a mile from the Pentagon — scared the daylights out of some nearby residents who were reminded of the day a hijacked plane hit.

"It was quite impressive, it makes you think of a Bruce Willis movie or something like that," said Mike Laba, who lives nearby. "The last time I saw something that impressive was when I was at the Pentagon on Sept. 11." CANDACE SMITH (AP)



Investigators look over the scene of a tanker explosion in Arlington, Va., that some area residents said initially reminded them of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

Baltimore Priest Is Defrocked

Blackwell accused of molesting parishioner from 1989 to 1992

BALTIMORE | Pope John Paul II has defrocked a priest accused of sexually abusing a parishioner who shot the Baltimore cleric years later as publicity mounted over the child abuse scandal in the Roman Catholic Church, The Associated Press has learned.

The pope decided in October to dismiss Maurice Blackwell "from the clerical state," and the Archdiocese of Baltimore received the official documents earlier this month from the Vatican, archdiocese spokesman Sean Caine said Wednesday.

Blackwell, 58, is scheduled to go on trial Jan. 3 on four counts of child sexual abuse against Dontee Stokes. The alleged abuse began in 1989 and ended in 1992 — a decade before the Baltimore barber shot Blackwell in front of the priest's home. Blackwell has denied sexually abusing Stokes, who was a teenager at the time.

Defrocking, which the church calls laicization, is applied in extreme cases of misconduct. BRIAN WITTE (AP)

New Stations Hit By Power Outage

WASHINGTON | Less than a week after service began to two new stations on Metro's Blue Line, a power outage abruptly halted service Tuesday night and into part of Wednesday's morning commute.

A problem at a substation that supplies power to the Morgan

Boulevard and Largo Town Center stations, which opened Saturday, brought down one track around 8:30 p.m., and the other a half-hour later, Metro said. Shuttle buses transported riders until closing on Tuesday, and again from 5 a.m. Wednesday until power was restored at 6:20 a.m.

Eighteen riders were escorted off a train that was stuck about 40 feet from Morgan Boulevard. (EXPRESS)

The Volkswagen Year End Sales Drive Totally/fully-equipped... a/c, ster/cd player pwr wind/lcks, keyless, abs, & much more! OPENSUNDAY! OPENSUNDAY!

2005 JETTA GL

\$179 per month 39-mo lease

\$933 DUE AT SIGNING. Plus tax, tags & license. No security deposit required. Exp 12/31/04.

LEASE SPECIAL ENDS SOON, BETTER HURRY!

On the web@**StohlmanAuto.com**

tohlman 8433 Leesburg P

703-893-2990

PLUS TAX, TAGS, \$575 FREIGHT, \$185 PROC FEE. OWNERS LOYALTY AVAILABLE THROUGH VCI FINANCING. ON APPROVED CREDIT. 12K MIYR. OFFER EXPIRES 12/31/04.

Nudists Get Booted From Assateague

OCEAN CITY, MD. | Nudists are fighting a losing battle for the right to sunbathe on Assateague Island National Seashore.

Two Ocean City men recently were convicted by the U.S. Magistrate in Salisbury for inde-

cently exposing themselves this summer at the national park, said Assistant Chief Ranger Ted Morlock. Each man was fined \$650 and will be banned from the island, including Assateague State Park, for three years.

The southern spit of the national seashore has long been considered a safe zone for sunbathing in the buff. But rangers say the aggressive prosecution of those two men, whose names were not released, signals a stepped-up effort to halt the practice.

"I want to emphasize, this is just the beginning," Morlock said. (AP)

The Lotteries

Wednesday, Dec. 22

Mid-day Lucky Numbers 2-9-0
Evening Lucky Numbers 0-1-8
Mid-day DC 4 3-4-0-3
Evening DC 4 0-0-2-9
Quick Cash 20-5-10-25-14-3
Hot Five 1-6-24-9-13

 MARYLAND

 Mid-day Pick 3
 4-I-9

 Evening Pick 3
 7-5-6

 Mid-day Pick 4
 6-2-4-0

 Evening Pick 4
 7-7-8-7

 Match 5
 4-8-I4-2I-26 Bonus: 12

VIRGINIA

 Mid-day Pick 3 (Wed.)
 9-0-7

 Evening Pick 3 (Tues.)
 5-9-7

 Mid-day Pick 4 (Wed.)
 8-6-5-6

Evening Pick 4 (Tues.) 5-9-7-6 Mid-day Cash 5 (Wed.) 7-15-21-31-33 Evening Cash 5 (Tues.) 11-13-20-25-34

ULTI-STATE GAMES

Mega Millions (Tues.) **7-22-27-31-38**Mega Ball **12**

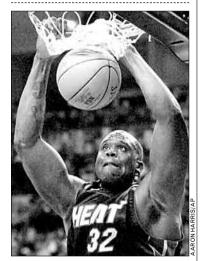
All winning numbers are official only when validated at a lottery ticket location or a lottery claims office. Drawings that occur after Express's deadline will be published two days later.

ath 1995.

REMEMBER WHEN: How long ago was it that the Redskins won in Dallas? Heath Shuler was the starting quarterback when they defeated the Cowboys 24-17 in 1995. The former No. 3 overall pick in the draft left Washington in a trade in 1997.

Sports





Shaquille O'Neal has made no secret of his unhappiness with Kobe Bryant.

- → HOT STUFF: After months of unnecessary build-up, Shaquille O'Neal and Kobe Bryant play for the first time since the Lakers traded O'Neal. The Miami Heat visit Los Angeles on Saturday (3:15 p.m. on ABC).
- → CHRISTMAS SPIRIT: The Detroit Pistons and Indiana Pacers square off on Christmas (Saturday, 12:30 p.m. on ABC) for the first since the infamous NBA Brawl. Doesn't it just warm your heart?
- → **OLD IS NEW:** Gary Williams leads the Maryland Terrapins against the



American Eagles — whom he coached more than 20 years ago — in a non-conference game at the Comcast Center on Thursday night (8 p.m. on Comcast).

Williams

- → ARE YOU READY? There are also two football games on Christmas. First, the Oakland Raiders visit the Kansas City Chiefs (5 p.m. on CBS) and then the Denver Broncos visit the Tennessee Titans (8:30 p.m. on ESPN).
- → PLAYOFFS? The Ravens, fighting for their playoff lives, face a mustwin situation against the Pittsburgh Steelers on Sunday (1 p.m. on CBS).
- → MAGIC RIDE: The Wizards, 2-2 on the West Coast this week, are still on the road for Sunday's game at Minnesota (8 p.m. on NewsChannel 8).

Defense Bowled Over

Redskins linebacker Washington is team's only Pro Bowl choice

REDSKINS | While the congratulations went to linebacker Marcus Washington for his Pro Bowl selection, he and the rest of the Washington Redskins could only wonder: Where were the votes for Cornelius Griffin?

"I was happy for me," Washington said. "But at the same time, it was kind of a bummer."

Washington was surprised to earn a first trip to Hawaii, but the bigger shock was that he was the only Redskins player on the list Wednesday when the selections were announced for the NFL's all-star game.

Griffin would rank among the league-leaders in tackles if it were an official statistic — the Redskins credit him with 85 — and last week was voted the team's player of the year by the local media. And line-backer Antonio Pierce has been the glue that has held together a unit that has survived injuries to LaVar Arrington, Mike Barrow, Phillip



Barring injuries, Marcus Washington will be the only Redskin in the Pro Bowl.

Daniels and Matt Bowen.

Pierce was chosen as a second alternate, Griffin as a fourth alternate. The Pro Bowl will be played Feb. 13 in Honolulu.

In a show of flash over quality,

rookie safety Sean Taylor was picked as a first alternate, likely because his bone-crunching hits make the highlight reel — and his tendency to run himself out of position does not. First alternates often make it to the







DEC. 26: at Dallas 4 p.m. (Fox)

- → **SCORE**: The Redskins can get inside the red zone with no problem, but more touchdowns are needed.
- → PORTIS RULES: Give Clinton Portis the ball. The Redskins win when he gets 100 yards. It's that simple.
- → SPEED: Joe Gibbs needs to get his plays called faster, allowing for more motion to be used by the offense.

Pro Bowl because of injuries.

Cornerbacks Fred Smoot and Shawn Springs were considered Pro Bowl possibilities, but they probably canceled each other out. Smoot was chosen as a second alternate, Springs as a third alternate.

Punter Tom Tupa, second in the league with a 44.4-yard average, is a second alternate. Clinton Portis was the only offensive player recognized, earning first-alternate status with 1,283 yards rushing.

Eagles Lead Way With 9 All-Stars

FOOTBALL | Donovan McNabb and Terrell Owens were among nine Philadelphia Eagles voted to the Pro Bowl, the most representatives for a team since 1998.

The Eagles, who already clinched home-field advantage for the NFC playoffs with a 13-1 record, easily had the most Pro Bowlers in results announced Wednesday.

Pittsburgh, the league's other 13-1 team, had the next-most selections in balloting by players, coaches and fans, with six Pro Bowlers. For only the third time, a set of brothers made the same Pro Bowl. Cornerback Ronde Barber of Tampa Bay and running back Tiki Barber of the Giants were selected for the NFC roster — the first twins to make it. (AP)

Vinny Stays Cowboys' QB

41-year-old Testaverde to start vs. Redskins, backup might also play

thinks Vinny Testaverde gives the Dallas Cowboys the best chance to win, so he's keeping the 41-year-old quarterback as his starter.

But Parcells might not stick with Testaverde throughout Sunday's game against the Washington Redskins.

Parcells said Wednesday he's told Tony Romo to be ready to take the first snaps of his two-year NFL career. While coaches always want backups to prepare as if they were starting, Parcells is taking it a step further by giving Romo "quite a bit of additional work" with the first team in practice this week.

Left out of the equation is highly touted rookie Drew Henson. He started on Thanksgiving but was pulled at halftime.

At 5-9, the Cowboys have little chance to make the playoffs, so it would seem like the last two games would be a good time to start breaking in a young quarterback

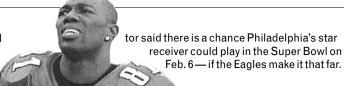
Then again, Dallas has been under .500 since the fifth game and Parcells has never seriously considered turning the offense over to Romo or Henson. Jaime Aron (AP)

Vinny Testaverde led Dallas to a victory over Washington earlier this season.

Sports

NOT SO SUPER ANYMORE: Terrell Owens had surgery on his right

ankle Wednesday, and the doc-



AWARDS

DeMatha's McGregor Wins High School Coach of Year

Dematha Catholic (Md.) High School coach William McGregor is the 2004 NFL High School Football Coach of the Year. McGregor has been the coach at DeMatha for the past 23 years and was nominated by Philadelphia Eagles running back Brian Westbrook, one of his former players. Eight of McGregor's teams have been ranked nationally by USA Today and 275 of his players have attended college on full football scholarships. (AP)

Bettman Could Cancel NHL Season at Jan. 14 Meeting

National Hockey League club officials will meet next month, when commissioner Gary Bettman could seek permission to cancel the remainder of the 2004-05 season. Top executives from the 30 clubs will gather on Jan. 14 with Bettman, the league confirmed Wednesday. If a collective bargaining agreement hasn't been reached with the players' union by then, the lockout will probably cause the cancellation of the 2004-05 season. (AP)

HOCKEY PENALTIES

Vancouver's Bertuzzi Pleads **Guilty to On-Ice Assault**

Vancouver Canucks player Todd Bertuzzi pleaded guilty to assault Wednesday, more than nine months after slugging Colorado forward



Todd Bertuzzi and his wife, Julie, enter court for his assault trial on Wednesday. Steve Moore from behind and driving his face into the ice during a game. A lawyer acting on behalf of Moore asked the judge to delay sentencing until January to give his client a chance to travel to Vancouver to make a statement. Moore was hospitalized with three fractured vertebrae, facial cuts, post-concussion symptoms and amnesia. Bertuzzi was suspended indefinitely by the NHL, missing 13 regular-season games and seven postseason games while losing nearly \$502,000 in salary. (AP)

more cars on the net

cars.com @washingtonpost.com

express automobile dealers

(A) ACURA

Rosenthal Gaithersburg Acura

623 North Frederick Avenue, Gaithersburg, MD 301-840-9333 gaithersburgacura.com

Rockville Porsche-Audi

1450 Rockville Pike. Rockville, MD 301-881-0900 www.rockvilleporsche-audi.com



BUICK

Browns Buick Isuzu

10245 Lee Highway, Fairfax, VA 22030 www.brownscar.com 703-934-4900



CHEVROLET

Criswell Chevrolet

NUMBER ONE GM STORE! Largest Inventory - Lowest Prices 301-948-0880 www.criswellauto.com

Curtis Chevrolet

5929 Georgia Ave NW Washington, DC/ Bethesda curtischevy.com 202-723-0100

Koons Chevrolet Tysons Corner

2000 Chain Bridge Rd. Vienna. VA 22182 www.koons.com 888-383-8200

Rosenthal Chevrolet

1100 South Glebe Road, Arlington, VA rosenthalchevrolet.com 703-920-8700

☆ | CHRYSLER

Rosenthal Chrysler

3400 Columbia Pike Arlington, VA rosenthalchrysler.com 703-920-8700



Ourisman World of Ford

6129 Richmond Highway Alexandria, VA 22303 www.ourismanford.com 703-660-9000

Koons Sterling Ford

46869 Harry Byrd Hwy Sterling, VA 20164 www.koons.com 888-342-7300



Criswell Honda

19529 Amaranth Drive Germantown MD www.criswellhonda.net 301-864-0880

Fairfax Honda

11020 Main Street (Rt. 50) Fairfax, VA fairfaxhonda.com 703-934-8500

Landmark Honda

5125 Duke Street Alexandria, VA landmarkhonda.com 1-800-804-5312

Rosenthal Honda Tysons Corner

1592 Springhill Road www.rosenthalhonda.com 703-749-6600

HUMMER

Criswell Hummer

New H2's Available www.criswellauto.com 301-948-0880



HYUNDAI

Alexandria Hyundai

1707 Mt. Vernon Avenue www.alexandriahyundai.com 703-535-6840

Fairfax Hyundai

RT. 123 & RT. 50 - Open Sunday www.fairfaxhyundai.com 703-352-0444



O INFINI

Rosenthal Infiniti Tysons Corner

8527 Leesburg Pike www.rosenthalinfiniti.com 703-556-6900

USUZI

Rosenthal Gaithersburg Isuzu

625 North Frederick Avenue Gaithersburg, MD 301-212-3000 gaithersburgisuzu.com

Cherner Isuzu/Kia

8563 Leesburg Pike Vienna, VA 703-893-0800



Rosenthal Jaquar Tysons Corner

1592 Springhill Road (RT. 7), Tysons Corner, VA 703-893-1700 rosenthaljaguar.com

Jeep

Rosenthal Jeep

3400 Columbia Pike Arlington, VA rosenthalieep.com 703-920-8700

KIA KIA

Criswell Kia

Gaithersburg, MD www.criswellauto.com 301-212-4400

Laurel Kia

14921 Baltimore Ave., Laurel, MD Rte. 1 1-800-NEWKIA www.laurelkia.com



LAND ROVER

Land Rover Rockville

"Let the Adventure Begin 1190 Rockville Pike Rockville 301-294-0117

Rosenthal Land Rover Tysons

1592 Springhill Road (RT. 7) Tysons Corner, VA rosenthallandrover.com 703-893-1700



(LEXUS

Lexus of Silver Spring

2505 Prosperity Terr Silver Spring, MD 20904 www.lexusofsilverspring.com 800-266-4874

LINCOLN

Browns Lincoln Mercury

10287 Lee Highway, Fairfax, VA 22030 www.brownscar.com 800-626-1241

Cherner Lincoln Mercury Tysons 8550 Leesburg Pike Vienna, VA 22182 www.cherner.com 703-893-0800

Cherner Lincoln Mercury

6500 Little River Turnpike Annandale, VA www.chernerlm.com 703-750-2700

LOTUS

Criswell Lotus

Esprit & Flise Available! www.criswellauto.com 301-948-0880



Browns Fairfax Mazda

10570 Lee Highway Fairfax, VA 22030 www.brownscar.com 800-665-5092

Arlington Mazda

750 North Glebe Road Arlington, VA arlingtonmazda.com 800-352-6157

Rosenthal Gaithersburg Mazda

625 North Frederick Avenue Gaithersburg, MD 301-212-3000 gaithersburgmazda.com

Rosenthal Mazda Tysons Corner 8525 Leesburg Pike 703-442-8700 www.rosenthalmazda.com

MERCEDES

Euro Motorcars Bethesda

7020 Arlington Road Bethesda MD Buying/Internet Services Welcome 301-986-8800

Euro Motorcars Germantown

19750 Germantown Rd., Germantown, MD www.euromotorcarsgermantown.com 240-686-1300

NISSAN

355 Nissan/Volvo

15911 Indianola Drive Rockville MD 20855 www.darcars.com 301-309-2200

Browns Fairfax Nissan

11000 Main Street Fairfax, VA 22030 www.brownsfairfaxnissan.com 703-591-8009

Browns Sterling Nissan

45155 Towlern Place Sterling, VA www.brownssterlingnissan.com 703-948-1100



International Saab

540 S. Washington St., Falls Church, VA www.internalsaab.com 703-534-SAAB



SCION

355 Scion/Toyota

www.darcars.com 301-340-0900



SUBARU

Dulles Subaru 107 Catoctin Circle SE Leesburg, VA www.dullesauto.com 703-777-7077

Stohlman Subaru

8433 Leesburg Pike, Tyson Corner, VA www.stohlmansubaru.com 703-893-2990



355 Toyota

15131 Frederick Rd Rockville MD 20855 www.darcars.com 301-309-3917

Alexandria Tovota

3570 Jeff Davis Hwy Alexandria, VA www.alexandriatoyota.com 703-684-0700

Bill Page Toyota

2923 Annandale, Rd. Falls Church, VA www.billpagetoyota.com 703-533-9100

Lustine Toyota

Autos 4 Life 14227 Jeff Davis Hwy Woodbridge, VA lustineonline.com 866-828-2222

Koons Arlington Toyota 4045 Lee Highway Arlington, VA 22207 www.koons.com 888-837-8657

Koons Tysons Toyota 8610 Leesburg Pike Vienna, VA 22182 www.koons.com 888-218-4444

Ourisman Chantilly Toyota 4135 Auto Park Circle, Chantilly, VA 20151 www.ourismanchantillytoyota.com 703-378-2121

Springfield Toyota

6570 Amherst Ave Springfield, VA www.kjtoyota.com 703-269-1402

Toyota of Stafford

95 Garrison Road, Stafford, VA 95S, Exit 143B www.rosnerauto.com 540-720-4700

Fairfax Volkswagen

VOLKSWAGEN

11050 Main Street (RT 50) Fairfax, VA fairfaxyw com 703-273-6700

Alexandria VW 107 W Glebe Road Alexandria VA www.alexandriavw.com 703-684-8888

VW Springfield

6601 Backlick Rd. Springfield, VA www.vw-springfield.com 703-451-2380 Stohlman VW

8433 Leesburg Pike, Tyson Corner, VA www.stohlmanvw.com 703-893-2990

VOLVO

Don Beyer Volvo Alexandria

7416 Rischmond Hwy Alexandria www.donbeyervolvo.com (703) 768-5800

Fairfax Volvo

11050 Main Street (RT 50) Fairfax, VA fairfaxvolvo.com (703) 591-1820

USED CARS

Jack Taylors Signature Cars

3750 Jefferson Davis Hwy Alexandria, VA 703-683-0770

CALIFORNIA DREAMING: It turns out that D.C. United didn't need to leave California after winning the MLS Cup this year. The team will face the expansion Deportivo Chivas USA in the 2005 opener on April 2 in Carson, Calif., the site of the 2004 MLS Cup.



Sports

Rush On to Ready D.C. for Baseball Artest's

Nationals are back in business with 113 days left until home opener

D.C. BASEBALL | Outside a small heated trailer in the parking lot of RFK Stadium, fans arrived more than an hour early for the reopening of the Washington Nationals merchandise store.

Inside the stadium, officials met to discuss a new timetable for transforming an aging facility into a major league ballpark by April 14.

With only 113 days until the home opener against Arizona, Washington's new baseball team is in a dash to get ready. The team was back in business following Tuesday's vote by the D.C. Council to approve a stadium financing plan that satisfies baseball owners and was the last significant hurdle in the Montreal Expos' move to Washington.

The team resumed negotiations for a radio deal and rescheduled meetings with potential sponsors.

Uniforms — with "Nationals" on the home jersey and "Washington" on the road version — went on sale for the first time.

Players who had scouted Washington's real estate market on the Internet could do so again with some degree of certainty, their jobs no longer at the whim of city



SHOP TIL YOU DROP: With the Washington Nationals souvenir store back open, customers took advantage of the first chance to buy the team's jerseys, which were to be unveiled last week until the D.C. Council initially blocked the stadium plan.

politicians

"It's a sigh of relief," said catcher Brian Schneider, who agreed to a \$2 million, one-year contract Wednesday. "I'm just really looking forward to worrying about baseball."

Officials plan to start cutting a baseball infield at RFK on Monday as part of a stadium overhaul originally put at \$13.5 million. The final figure is expected to be significantly higher because workers will have to put in overtime in a compressed schedule that is subject to delays from winter weather.

The Expos cannot officially become the Nationals until Mayor Anthony A. Williams signs the ballpark legislation passed by the council. That will not happen until next week because the mayor is out of town until Sunday.

The sale of the team, which now is owned by the other 29 major league teams, will not move ahead as quickly. Commissioner Bud Selig said he wants a new owner in place by opening day, but that goal seems optimistic. Joseph white (AP)

Georgetown Ekes Out Win in Hawaii

COLLEGE HOOPS | Jeff Green scored 20 points and grabbed 10 rebounds, including a key offensive rebound with 11 seconds left as Georgetown held off a late run by Long Beach State for a 57-51 victory in the consolation round of the Rainbow Classic on Wednesday in Hawaii.

After the 49ers closed to 52-49 on a 3-pointer by Jibril Hodges with 14 seconds remaining, Green grabbed an offensive rebound off a free throw miss by teammate Jonathan Wallace.

Green was fouled and converted both free throws with 11 seconds left. After a basket by Long Beach



Georgetown's Darrel Owens drives to the basket in the Hoyas' win Wednesday.

State's Kevin Houston, Green hit two more free throws to seal the game for the Hoyas (5-3).

Shawn Hawkins led Long Beach State (1-7) with 18 points and Hodges added in 11. (AP)

Top Md. Recruit Picks Penn State for College

FOOTBALL | Afternavigating through one of most intense recruiting battles in Maryland high school football history, Eleanor Roosevelt High School star Derrick Williams announced today that he will play football for Penn State University.

Upon graduating this month, Williams will enroll at Penn State in time for the spring semester, where he will likely play wide receiver. He is returning to the university where he began constructing his national reputation when he ran the 40-yard dash in 4.4 seconds the sum-

mer before his ninth-grade year.

That performance earned him a private audience with Joe Paterno and Penn State became Williams' most persistent suitor. Paterno made a rare personal visit to Eleanor Roosevelt in Greenbelt last spring, prefacing the visit with a three-page handwritten note in which he explained "ordinarily I don't recruit in the Spring but this year — but this year — the first day we are allowed to be on the road I'm going to be in Eleanor Roosevelt High School."

Artest's Brawl Ban Is Upheld

O'Neal's penalty is reduced by 10 games, NBA to fight ruling

NBA BRAWL | Jermaine O'Neal might be home for Christmas: back on the court with the Indiana Pacers when they play the rival Detroit Pistons.

An arbitrator on Wednesday knocked 10 games off the penalty O'Neal received from commissioner David Stern for fighting with fans during the Nov. 19 Pacers-Pistons brawl. Three other suspensions were upheld.

O'Neal's suspension was reduced from 25 to 15 games, making him eligible to return Saturday in the nationally televised rematch — but only if the judgment stands up in court.

The league and the union were expected to argue the matter Thursday morning in U.S. District Court. The NBA says Kaplan has no jurisdiction to rule on the matter.

In a 28-page decision, Kaplan upheld Ron Artest's season-long suspension and the penalties given to Stephen Jackson (30 games) and Anthony Johnson (five games).

In reducing O'Neal's ban, Kaplan cited O'Neal's "character, community involvement and citizenship" while also deeming Stern's punishment "excessive."

"This should not be viewed as condoning what O'Neal did. He did punch a fan. The 15-game suspension is a significant penalty," Kaplan wrote in his decision, a copy of which was obtained by The Associated Press. Chris Sheridan (AP)



Jermaine O'Neal may be allowed to play for the Indiana Pacers on Christmas.







www.KJSCION.com WITH SO MANY STANDARD FEATURES SAVING MONEY IS **NOT** A OPTION!

THE FUTURE IS HERE

PANARAMA MOONROOF, PIONEER CD/MP3, 17" ALLOY WHEELS, ABS, & SO MUCH MORE



2005 SOION

ABS, TRACTION CONTROL, KEYLESS ENTRY, PIONEER CD/MP3



2005 SOION AUTOMATIC PIONEER CD PLAYER, ABS **POWER PKG & MORE**

www.KJSCION.com 6570 Amherst Ave. Springfield, VA 22150 03-451-0300

PRICE PLUS TAX, TAGS, \$225 PROC. FEE, FRT. TC, XB & XA \$515.

TYSONS (P) TOYOTA One of America's Largest Certified Pre-Owned Dealers!



SELECT YOUR FAVORITE NEW OR USED MODEL AND ASK FOR YOUR SPECIAL MEMBER PRICE!

Now Til January 8[™], 2005!!! ALL CREDIT UNION MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO THIS GREAT SALES EVENT! UNION SALES MAI

Immediate Financing Available To Qualified Buyers! All Trades Welcome And Needed! We Buy Cars!!!

RR **KOONS**

TYSONS TOYOTA



Buyers rate Hyundai as High-Quality #2 only to Lexus! (USA Today)

"America's Best Warranty"

10 yr./100,000 Mile Factory Warranty

NEW 2005 HYUNDAI FROM \$41.5 **Below MSRP** Rated Most Appealing In Its Class

THE ALL NEW 2005 TUCSON IS HERE!

NEW 2005 HYUNDAI Santa Feii FROM \$41 000 Below MSRP Safest SUV in America

FAIRFAX HYUNDAI 10601 LEE HIGHWAY

FAIRFAX, VA 22030 Rts. 123 & 50 3 Minutes from Rt. 66 www.fairfaxhyundai.com

703-352-0444

OPEN SUNDAY



*Incl. All Incen. & Rebates. EXCL. \$540 FGT., \$289 Proc. Fee. *On Approved Credit. *Incl. VIP & 0.0% On Select Models. Offer Expires 12/31/04.

RATES AS LOW AS 1.9% MANUFACTURER REBATES UP TO \$1,750

Search Our Huge Inventory at: WWW-a exandriatoyota-com NEW '05 CAMRY's NEW '05 COROLLA'S S & LE INCLUDES FREIGHT NEW '05 SIENNA's LE'S INCLUDES XLE'S No Less than | No Less than

\$2,300 OFF MSRP OFF MSRP
NEW '04 TUNDRA'S THOULEST A NEW '05 TUNDRA'S NEW '04 4RUNNER'S NO Less than No Less than

SS,500 OFF MSRP

NEW '05 4RUNNER's No Less than 4,000 4,500 OFF MSRP OFF MSRP OFF MSRP

INCLUDES FREIGHT

Over 80 2,500 3,000 OFF MSRP OFF MSRP NEW '05 HIGHLANDER's No Less than

OFF MSRP

50 Jefferson Davis Hwy. (Rte. 1) Alexandria, VA www.alexandriatovota.com

SCIONS ARE HERE SCION TC Manual \$16,465 Manual \$ **14,195** Manual \$12,995

www.alexandriascion.com PRICES PLUS TAX, TAGS, \$199 PROC. FEE.

Jack laylors

LEXANDRIA TOYO 703-684-0700

PRICES PLUS TAX, TAGS, PROCESSING FEE \$199. INCLUDES ALL INCENTIVES. FINANCING ON APPROVED CREDIT. ENDS C.O.B. 12/31/04.

(0)(0)(0)

Entertainment



eekendPa

Joy to the World

to charity.

es, drink specials, kosher pizza and

other snacks, and all proceeds go

Dec. 25, 8 p.m.; \$5 suggested donation;

Chuck Redd is among the Redds ready

Drummer and vibes player Chuck

Redd and his pianist brother Robert

Redd bring their melodic talents to

Blues Alley for their annual "Redd

Christmas." The event promises

many swinging holiday favorites and

NW; Thu., Dec. 23, 8 &, 10 p.m.; \$16;

Blues Alley, 1073 Wisconsin Ave.

maybe a surprise guest or two.

to jazz up the season at Blues Alley.

→ REDD CHRISTMAS

202-737-1970. (Metro Center)

Polly Esther's, 605 12th St. NW; Sat.,

'Tis the season to indulge in holiday fun

OUT & ABOUT | The holiday season doesn't have to be all "Nutcrackers" and "Christmas Carols." Luckily, the D.C. arts and entertainment scene has drummed up some varied and appealing events for this weekend, including a skiing Santa, a gefilte fish gala and Christmas, country-style.

→ SING FEVER

All you need is a previously pickedup free ticket, so even if your alto scares small children and dogs,



(and 200-some pros) in a rousing rendition of Handel's "The Messiah," led by guest conductor Barry Hemphill.

Kennedy Center, 2700 F St. NW; Thu., Dec. 23, 8 p.m., free but tickets required; 202-467-4600. (Foggy Bottom-GWU)

→ SKI, SKI, SANTA

Santa and pals show off their semiextreme sports prowess at the Columbia Island Marina's "Water-Skiing Santa and Knee-Boarding

> Soprano Janice Chandler-Eteme will sing Christmas songs, get singalongs going and generally add one more magnificent voice to the Choral Arts Society of Washington.

202-337-4141.

→ CHORAL RELIEF

Kennedy Center, 2700 F St. NW; Thu., Dec. 23, 1:30 p.m., \$17-\$50; 202-467-4600. (Foggy Bottom-

→ COMMUNAL UNITY

Melvin Deal and his African Heritage Dancers and Drummers celebrate at the 47th Anniversary and Kwanzaa Celebration for 2004. The performance highlights the shared African heritage of the African-American and Ethiopian communities. This year's theme is Communal Unity.

Lincoln Theatre, 1215 U St. NW; Sun., Dec. 26, 7 p.m., \$20; 800-551-7328. (USt.-Cardozo)

→ ALIEN FOR CHRISTMAS

David Detweiler may or may not be from Earth, he may or may not be the twisted jazz party boy he plays at being. This we know for sure: Detweiler plays a monster tenor sax and his performance of holiday jazz with Prelude will put syncopation in your step.

Kennedy Center, 2700 F St. NW; Thu., Dec. 23, 6 p.m., free; 202-467-4600. (Foggy Bottom-GWU)

→ WHITE-HOT CHRISTMAS

The annual All-Star Christmas Day Jazz Jam gathers jazzists from all over the Washington metro area who'd rather swing than carol.

Kennedy Center, Millennium Stage, 2700 FSt. NW; 6 p.m., free; 202-467-4600. (Foggy Bottom-GWU)

→ COUNTRY COZY

In a show that should be a little bit country, a little bit spiritual, Kathy Mattea performs "Songs and the Season," a mix of classics and new material. She'll also no doubt perform music from her 2003 Christmas album, "Joy for Christmas Day."

Kennedy Center, 2700 F St. NW; Sun., Dec. 26, 8 p.m.; \$32-\$47; 202-467-4600, ERIN O'CONNOR



The Choral Arts Society puts on a splendid show with Chandler-Eteme.



FOR COMPLETE EVENT LISTINGS SEE WASHINGTONPOST.COM/ENTERTAINMENT

Haunting of Scrooge: Ghostly 'Story'

But much of the season IS "Nutcrackers" and "Christmas Carols," so in case you still haven't gotten a good sugarplum fix, hie on down to Ford's Theatre for "A Christmas Carol: A Ghost Story of Christmas." This production puts the haunting back in Dickens' supposedly heart-warming tale.

Ford's Theatre, 511 10th St. NW; through Jan. 2, \$16-\$48; 202-347-4833. (Metro Center)



It's a red, white and blue Christmas.

A Capital Ballet: Homegrown 'Nutcracker'

The Washington Ballet's D.C.themed "Nutcracker" hangs up its toe shoes the day after Christmas. And no, just because it's set here in the capital doesn't mean it's danced entirely by rats and the Russian dancers break their necks because the snowplows never showed up.

Warner Theatre, 513 13th St. NW; through Dec. 26, \$25-\$69; 800-551-7328. (Metro Center)

Continued on page 16

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Please send press releases and photos to expressevents@readexpress.com

TopStops

Continued from page 15

Play It Again: 'Wonderful Life'

AFI Silver's "Yuletide Classics" series gallops along (in a onehorse open sleigh) with screenings of all your favorite holiday movies. This weekend, it's the tear-jerking, heart-warming, Donna Reedweeping, S&L-saving classic "It's a Wonderful Life."

AFI Silver Theatre, 8633 Colesville Road, Silver Spring; through Dec. 30, 4:10 (\$5), 6:50 & 9:30 p.m. (\$7.50-\$8.50); 301-495-6700. (Silver Spring)



In case you've never seen "It's a Wonderful Life," AFI is screening it.

Waltz of the Scones: **Nutcracker Tea**

The only thing more magical for a child at Christmas than seeing "The Nutcracker" from a theater seat is attending a Nutcracker Tea. The annual event includes a performance by the Maryland National Youth Ballet, a holiday tea service and a nutcracker to take home.

Ritz-Carlton Tysons Corner, 1700 Tysons Blvd., McLean; Thu., Dec. 23, performances 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 2-3:30 p.m., \$50; 703-917-5498.

A Musical 'Carol': **Great White Christmas Way**

Kathy Feininger slyly re-worked ye olde "A Christmas Carol" — with its Victorian atmosphere, its spoken dialogue and total lack of showtunes - into a sassy musical version, resulting in the familiar-yetrefreshing "A Broadway Christmas

Round House Theatre, 8641 Colesville Road, Silver Spring; through Dec. 30, \$30-\$33; 240-644-1100. (Silver Spring)

Bah, Humbug!

Jolly, schmolly there's also plenty of non-holiday cheer

OUT & ABOUT | Had it up to your X with Xmas? There are plenty of alternatives besides stiffing the orphanage and spitting at carolers. Like the traditional Jewish Yule — catching a flick and grabbing some Chinese. Heavily hyped but welcome just the same, "The Life Aquatic With Steve Zissou" (opening Dec. 25) should go nicely with Whole Crispy Fish. If you're in the market for more social events. please see below.

→ SLICKEE SURFACE

Local psych-surf-punks Slickee Boys play their annual reunion gig, joined by Tru Fax and the Insaniacs, another band from the days before D.C. was a Dischord town.

Iota Club & Café, 2832 Wilson Blvd., Arlington; Sat., Dec. 25, 9:30 p.m., \$16; 703-522-8340. (Clarendon)

→ THE ROOTS ROCK

Philly's favorite sons the Roots cruise down I-95 for two nights of critically acclaimed full-band hip-hop.

9:30 Club, 815 V St. NW; Sun. ಟ Mon., Dec. 26-27, \$35; 800-551-7328. (USt.-Cardozo)

→ BIG DEALE

The Good Deale Bluegrass Band is the pride of Deale, Md., and it'll be playing its annual Christmas week show. The band also sells spiffy Tshirts that have a banjo-pickin' crab on them. Dobro man Mike Auldridge stars.

Rams Head Tavern, 33 West St., Annapolis; Sun., Dec. 26, 6:30 p.m., \$21.45; 410-268-4545.

→ POWER-CHORD YOGA Local latter-day hard-

EVIL CALLING:

Pamela Hamill is a thoroughly theatrical Mrs. Meers in "Millie."



BROTHERLY LOVE: The Roots' organic, exuberant family soul jams entertain, enlighten and don't even mention Christmas.

but you'll like it, too.

→ LIGHT IT UP

other folky instruments to whip up

a Celtic frenzy. It's a manly scent,

2700 F St. NW; Sun., Dec. 26, 6 p.m.,

free; 202-467-4600. (Foggy Bottom)

Smithsonian museums are dark

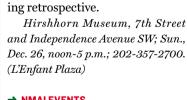
Kennedy Center, Millennium Stage,

core outfit The AKs rail against the Redskins and D.C. Council member Jack Evans and hail the laxative effects of yoga.

Black Cat, 1811 14th St. NW; with the Twats, Thu., Dec. 23, 9 p.m., \$5; 202-667-7960. (USt.-Cardozo)

→ IRISH SPRING IN THE STEP

Jim Eagan, Billy on the 25th, but the following McComiskey, Zan day the Hirshhorn glows with the McLeod and the lighting of Ana Mendieta's candle Culkin School of sculpture "Ñañigo Burial," part of Traditional Irish the late Cuban-born artist's ongo-Dance use accordion, bodhran, feet and



→ NMAI EVENTS

The National Museum of the American Indian celebrates with a week of holiday programs Gerald Barnes' Passamaquoddy basket-making (11 a.m.-4 p.m.), Lorisa Qumawunu's Hopi silver-working (noon, 2 & 4 p.m.), and several Cree filmmakers' short movies (noon, 2 & 4 p.m.). Halau and the Aloha Boys perform Hawaiian music (11 a.m. and 1 & 3 p.m.).

 $National\, Museum \, of \, the \, American$ Indian, 4th Street and Independence Avenue SW; Sun., Dec. 26, timed entry passes may be required; 1-866-400-6624. (L'Enfant Plaza)



ISLAND SPICE: The dancers of Halau bring bright summer to a cold winter.

→ LAST FLAP FOR 'MILLIE'

The touring company of the retro flapper musical "Thoroughly Modern Millie" takes its last local bows this weekend.

Kennedy Center, 2700 F St. NW; ends Sun., \$25-\$93; 202-467-4600. (Foggy Bottom-GWU) GLENN DIXON

Entertainment Weeker



FOR COMPLETE FILM CAPSILES SEE WASHINGTONPOST.COM/ENTERTAINMENT

Reviews by The Washington Post's Jennifer Frey, Stephen Hunter, Michael O'Sullivan, Nelson Pressley and Desson Thomson.

FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX (PG-13 113 minutes) Based on the novel by Elleston Trevor, which also inspired a rather good 1965 film starring Jimmy Stewart, "Phoenix" is the story of a group of people who, when their aircraft crash-lands in the Gobi desert decide to rebuild it from the wreckage. Far-fetched? Sure. And one of the passengers (Giovanni Ribisi) is even an aircraft designer. What are the odds? Fortunately, this is not the kind of movie that dwells on how the thing gets built. The film, like the plane, works not because of technology, but elbow grease - courtesy of the fine, and largely unstar-studded cast, whose characters and character flaws — come vividly to the fore as they battle sand, wind and electrical storms, marauding smugglers, despair, heat and one another. (MO)

HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS (PG-13, 119 minutes) A romantic martial arts rhapsody set in medieval China, where beautiful people possess martial arts skills that transcend time, space, gravity, physics, this film from Zhang Yimou will likely be compared to "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon." But it's better - more complete, more powerful, sadder, richer, wiser, more fights, more horses, more Zhang Ziyi. The indecently logical might complain about plot twists that feel arbitrary, or about the trajectory of flung daggers that go beyond boomerang. But the story isn't the story here, nor are the flying daggers. The sheer joy of letting go



Zhang Ziyi plays the beautiful blind courtesan-warrior in "Flying Daggers."



BAD FORTUNE: Jim Carrey mugs his way through various characters in "Snicket."

as a tale overwhelms your senses and drives the known world away - that's the story, (SH)

LEMONY SNICKET'S A SERIES OF **UNFORTUNATE EVENTS (PG, 108 min**utes) In the deliciously dark and eccentric world created by author Lemony Snicket, Violet (Emily Browning), Klaus (Liam Aiken) and baby Sunny (Kara and Shelby Hoffman) Baudelaire are left orphaned when their parents perish in a fire. The three children are taken to a dreadfully dirty and dilapidated mansion to live with Count Olaf (Jim Carrey), who wants them only for the Baudelaire fortune. What follows is a series of adventures as the children escape Olaf only to find themselves moving from guardian to guardian, with the count stalking them at every turn. The visuals are dark and ominous without being terrifying —the characters feel real, but their environment is off-kilter enough to remind you that this world is one of imagination. (JF)

THE SEA INSIDE (PG-13, 125 minutes) This film's main character craves only one thing; death, It's all true, based on the long, controversial crusade of quadriplegic Ramon Sampedro to end his life "with dignity," as the campaigning parlance goes. Director Alejandro Amenabar's challenge is to keep this story from being a grim march toward Sampedro's inevitable end, and he pulls it off largely because of the beatific performance of Javier Bardem. Bardem compels you to acknowledge, if not experience, Sampedro's despair. "The Sea Inside" is largely what its title suggests: placid and rather attractive on the surface, with depths you can sense but which are never fully plumbed. (NP)

A VERY LONG ENGAGEMENT (R, 134 minutes) Just as in Jean-Pierre Jeunet's previous film, "Amelie," Audrey Tautou plays a headstrong, courageous and highly romantic hero searching for her only true love. The story's set during World War I, when trench duty, unyielding mud,

senseless slaughter and insane commands from the dysfunctional French leadership are routine. Suspecting her soldier hovfriend is alive Mathilde (Tautou) hires a Parisian detective, Germain Pire (Ticky Holgado). He and Mathilde follow convoluted trails of testimony to track the lost lover; with each discovery, the story of what happened changes. Unfortunately, "Engagement" disappears inside its own enormous, intricate and ambitious design, and its emotional effect is surprisingly muted. (DT)

The whole story: Read full reviews of these films and more at washingtonpost.com/entertainment

Sunday in The Washington Post



Please. Make It Stop:

As the year comes to a dispiriting end, Dave Barry reminds us how absurd it all was. Thanks, Dave. | $Washington\ Post\ Magazine$

Ring in the New:

Skip Reege and join Carson Daly as he toasts New Year's Eve on his first prime-time holiday special. | TV Week







IMMEDIATE

OWN FOR LESS THAN RENT!

STUNNING 2 BR CONDOS WITH PARKING JUST \$2,235/MO.*

TWO BEDROOMS from the low \$400s UP TO \$6,000 in developer incentives* Ask about one-bedroom pricing as well

Unmatched Style, Comfort and Convenience! Over 50% sold in just a few weeks!

*Monthly payment based on a \$359,120.00 first deed of trust interest only ARM @ 5.125% initial annual interest rate (5.243% APR subject to increase after 5 years) and a \$67,335.00 HELOC @ 5.75% initial annual interest rate (5.753% APR subject to increase on a monthly basis). Monthly payment reflects 5% downpayment. Terms of repayment on first DOT loan are 60 monthly payments of \$1,533.74, which may increase after 5 years if interest rates increase and a final payment of \$1,533.74. Terms of repayment on HELOC are 1 monthly payment of \$322.65, which may increase after 1 month if interest rates increase and a final payment of \$322.65. Seller does not offer financing. Interest rate, programs, and seller concessions are based on certain assumptions based on market conditions. Seller makes no guarantees or representations whatsoever. Please consult an onsite sales associate for further details.

** In order to receive developer incentives, buyer must purchase a home between December 1 and December 31, 2004. Purchaser must agree to use the developer's preferred lender and title company. Please see sales associate for details.



THE MA

AT VIENNA

CALL (703)

9480 Virginia Center Boulevard Su Sales center open Mon-Thi www.MarquisAtVi

Owned by The Marquis at



18 | EXPRESS | 12.23.2004 | THURSDAY

O C C U P A N C Y



995 6600

naStation.com
ienna Station, LLC.

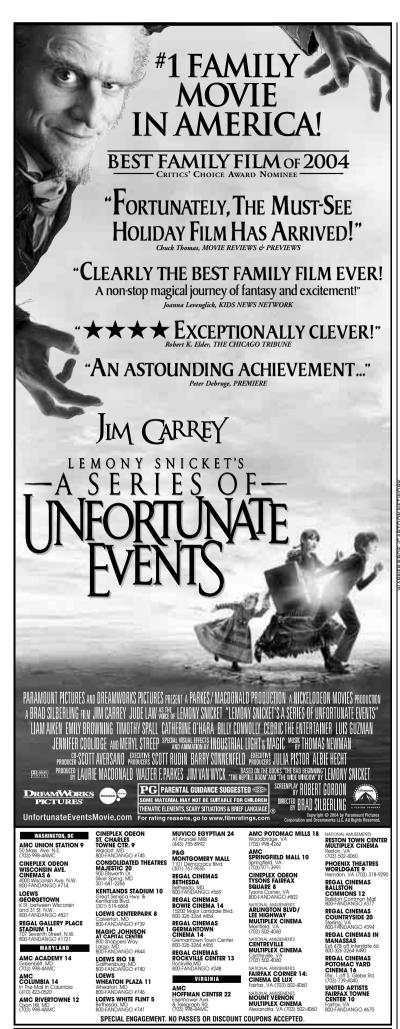
e 100, Vienna, Virginia 22181 10-7, Fri 9-4, Sun 11-6 DESIGNER MODELS NOW OPEN!

Vienna Metro Location with Fabulous Amenities Including:

Golf Simulation Theater • Indoor Basketball Court • DVD Theater Billiards Room • Parking Included • 24-Hour Business Center 24-Hour Fitness Center • Skybox Cafe • And Much More!







Personal Technology. Tuesdays.



NeekendPass

Entertainment



YOU'RE A MEAN ONE: Another airing of "The Grinch Who Stole Christmas" will surely spread joy through Whoville.

The Christmas Box

Thursday is the night to see every holiday TV treat ever made

SPECIAL SPECIALS | Christmas movies rarely deal with the biblical Christmas story even as an allegory. That's what makes the 1936 parable "Three Godfathers" (1:30 a.m., TCM) so rare and special. In this movie, the third filmed version of a hugely popular 1913 Saturday Evening Post story by Peter B. Kyne, three thieves come upon a woman in the desert in the throes of childbirth. Entrusted with the care of the newborn infant as the woman dies, the three "wise men" head for New Jerusalem and risk their loot and lives to protect their new responsibility. Director John Ford remade "Godfathers" in 1948.

Thursday's other holiday films include:

The 1938 adaptation of "A Christmas Carol" (8 p.m., TCM) stars Reginald Owen and Gene Lockhart. Look for young June Lockhart, Gene's little girl, in her screen debut.

Tim Allen plays a man legally obliged to become Santa in the popular 1994 comedy "The Santa Clause" (8 p.m., ABC). Released



Tim Allen was America's sweetheart when he played a reluctant Santa.

10 Christmas-movie seasons ago, this film marked a media hat trick for Allen.

A singer (LeAnn Rimes) gets bad news from home just before

her Grand Old Opry debut in the 1997 tearjerker "Holiday in Your Heart" (9 p.m., Lifetime). An impressive cast includes Aidan Quinn, Bernadette Peters, Donald Sutherland and Ben Kingsley.

On a lighter note, the 1999 animated feature "Mickey's Once Upon a Christmas" (8 p.m., Disney) features holiday tales from Mickey, Minnie and Goofy.

In another animated feature, "Ed, Edd n Eddy's Jingle Jingle Jangle" (8 p.m., Cartoon Network), Eddy's cynical plan to get new and better gifts actually provides him with new insights into other families' holiday traditions, and teaches him the meaning of Christmas. The Cartoon Network also affords viewers one of their final chances this season to catch "Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas" (8:30 p.m.).

Sam Elliott, Rebecca Harrell and Cloris Leachman star in the 1989 fantasy "Prancer" (8 p.m., Family) about a wounded reindeer and a little girl's sense of wonder. KEVIN MCDONOUGH (UNITED FEATURE SYNDICATE)

Entertainment WeekendPass



FOR COMPLETE WEEKEND LISTINGS SEE WASHINGTONPOST.COM/ENTERTAINMENT

SOUND

9:30 Club: Sun., The Roots, 7:30 p.m., \$35.815 V St. NW; 202-265-0930.

Apex: Thu., DJ Timothy Mykael, VJ Steve Rosa, 9 p.m., \$5; Fri., DJ Tony Valsco, 9 p.m., \$8; Sat., Liquid Ladies, 9 p.m., \$8. 4I5 22nd St. NW; 202-296-0505.

Between Friends: Fri., Gothic Night; Sat., Ladies in the Life, both IO p.m., \$10; Sun., Golden Mic Battle, 8 p.m., \$5-\$7. III5 U St. NW; 202-232-2544.

Black Cat: Thu., The AKs, the Twats, 9 p.m., \$5; Fri., Alternat'eve w/ Ladyplastik, DJ Milo, Nick Normal, 9 p.m donations to aid Haiti; Sat., Black Cat House II w/ DJs Brian Baker, Andy Rappa port. 9:30 p.m., free: Sun., Prepackaged Products, Blue Velvet, 9 p.m., \$5. I8II I4th St. NW; 202-667-7960.

LOCAL MUSIC | VROOM, VROOM



FAST LANE: D.C.'s own Fab Four, the Getaway Car, roar into Jammin' Java on Thursday night to sprinkle a little sweet-tart holiday rock on celebrants.

Blues Alley: Thu., The Redd Brothers, 8 & 10 p.m., \$16; Sun., Ahmad Jamal, 8 & IO p.m., \$25. IO73 Wisconsin Ave. NW: 202-337-4141.

Birchmere Music Hall: Sun., Deanna Bogart, The Holmes Brothers, 7:30 p.m., \$20. 370I Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria; 800-551-7328.

Continued on page 22

Please send press releases and photos to expressevents@readexpress.com



Home & Shopping.

Fridays.

express



clip this ad for free admission on christmas night!

the SCENE

Continued from page 21

The Classics: Sat., Suttle Thoughts, IO p.m., \$10; Sun., Rare Essence, IO p.m., \$20, 4591 Allentown Road, Camp Springs. Md.: 30I-420-5353.

Club Amazon: Thu., The G Project, IO p.m., \$IO-\$I5; Fri., College Night, IO p.m., free before II p.m.; Sat., Lissen Band, II p.m., free before midnight; Sun., Flow, IO p.m., free before II p.m. I350I Baltimore Ave., Laurel, Md.; 30I-2I0-3466.

Club Five: Thu., Pasion Latin Night, IO p.m., \$5; Fri., Pearl, That '80s Party, 9 p.m., \$10; Sat., M3; Music Makes Magic, 9 n.m., \$10: Sun., Trade, 9 n.m., \$10, 1214-B I8th St. NW; 202-331-7123.

Crossroads: Fri., Xmas w/ NY's Afrique, 5 p.m., \$10; Sat., Xmas Yard Style w/ Renaissance, 9 p.m., \$10; Sun., Dancehall Sundays, IO p.m., \$10. 4103 Baltimore Ave., Bladensburg, Md.: 301-927-1056.

Daedalus: Fri., Asian Nite, 10:30 p.m., \$10-\$15; Sun., The Bassment Show, 8 p.m., free. IOIO Vermont Ave. NW; 202-369-5600.

DC 9: Thu., Taint, 9 p.m., free; Sat., Liberation Dance Party, 9 p.m., \$5. 1949 9th St. NW-202-483-5000

LIVE MUSIC | QUIT TO WIN



GRITPOP: Quitter UK, at lota on Thursday, is five guys who fled the fringes of rock success (Emmet Swimming, Smartbomb) for the sunnier climes of DIY.

"THE HOLIDAY SEASON'S BEST MOVIE." SALON.COM

RollingStone

NEW YORK.

IMMEDIATELY."

The Washington Post

"EXTRAORDINARY!

AND GIGANTIC!"

"AN EMOTIONAL POWERHOUSE!"

"A DETECTIVE STORY TOLD AS

A DREAM...ALL YOU WANT TO

DO IS CLAP AND WEEP AND

WATCH IT ALL OVER AGAIN

RIVETING! SPECTACULAR

Dream: Fri., Xmas Eve Party, 9 p.m., \$15; Sat., Xmas Party, 9 p.m., \$15. I350 Okie St. NF: 202-636-9030.

Galaxy Hut: Sat., Beauty Pill; Sun., The Pagan Family Xmas Show; all shows 9:45 p.m., free. 27II Wilson Blvd., Arlington; 703-525-8646.

H20: Fri., International Happy Hour, 9 p.m., \$15: Sat., Soul Food Saturdays, 9 p.m., \$15, 800 Water St. SW: 202-484-6300.

Home: Fri., Dusk, 9 p.m., \$15; Sat., Synergy, 9:30 p.m., \$15. 9II F St. NW; 202-638-4663.

Iota Club & Café: Thu., Quitter UK, The Johnny Ireland Device, 9 p.m., \$10: Sat., The Slickee Boys Tru Fax & The Insaniacs, 7 p.m., \$16; Sun., Top Dead Center, Dave Kitchen, The Gene Kim Policy, 8:30 p.m., \$8, 2832 Wilson Blvd., Arlington: 703-522-8340.

Jammin' Java: Thu., Andv Waldeck, The Getaway Car, 8 p.m., \$8; Sun., Dave Detweiler & Prelude, 7 p.m., \$15, 227 Maple Ave., Vienna: 703-255-1566.

Jaxx: Thu., Baba G' Nush, Webster, Sesrosh. 7 p.m., \$10; Sat., Group Therapy, The Boadducks, Phil McCormack, 8:30 n m \$5 6355 Bolling Boad Springfield, Va.; 703-569-5940.

Kennedy Center, Millennium Stage:

Thu., Dave Detweiler & Prelude; Fri., Roland Young Quartet; Sat., Keter Betts, Chuck Redd, Robert Redd, Lenny Robinson. Tom & Delores King Williams: Sun., Jim Eagan, Billy McComiskey, Zan McLeod, all shows 6 p.m., noon (Fri.). free. 2700 F St. NW; 202-467-4600.

Kennedy Center, Concert Hall: Thu., Messiah Sing-Along, 8 p.m., free; Sun., Kathy Mattea, 8 p.m., \$32-\$47, 2700 F St. NW: 202-467-4600.

Madam's Organ: Thu., Johnny Artis Band, 9:30 p.m., \$5-\$7; Fri., The Soul Truth w/ Billy Mayfield, IO p.m., \$5-\$7; Sat., Blues, Blues, Blues, IO p.m., \$5-\$7; Sun., Lucky Dog w/ Lary Meisse, 9 p.m., \$2-\$3. 2461

Modern: Sun., Thu., Lionz Den, 9 p.m., \$5: Fri., The Scenario, 9 pm., \$10-\$15; Sat., Groove Theory, 9 p.m., \$10-\$15; Sun., Relaced.com Party w/ DJ Ilovldski, 9 p.m., \$10-\$15.3287 M St. NW; 202-338-7027.

18th St. NW; 202-667-5370.

Republic Gardens: Thu., Live Jazz, 6 p.m., \$10; Fri., Old School Happy Hour, 6 p.m., \$10; Sat., Remedy, 9 p.m., \$10. 1355 U St. NW: 202-232-2710.

Twins Jazz: Thu. Lou Jerome. 9 & II n.m. \$10-\$20. 1344 U St. NW; 202-234-0072.

Zanzibar: Fri., International Nite, Fusion Fridays, 7 p.m., \$10-\$15; Sat., International Saturdays, 9 p.m, \$10-\$15.700 Water St. NW: 202-554-9100

Continued on page 24

GET LISTED

Please send press releases and photos to expressevents@readexpress.com



"You're in for a treat. Director James L. Brooks doesn't just write comedy, he crafts it. Sandler is wonderfully appealing..."

Peter Travers, ROLLING STONE



"Brilliant!" Scott Patrick, HOLLYWOOD

Spanglish

A comedy with a language all its own.

COLUMBIA PICTURES PRESENTS A GRACIE FILMS PRODUCTION A FILM BY JAMES L. BROOKS

DAM SANDLER 'SPANGLISH' TÉA LEONI PAZ VEGA GLORIS LEACHMAN MUSIG HANS ZIMMER ENTOR RICHARD MARKS PRODUGTON DA RANDON UR UF JOHN SEALE, AGS, AGG PRODUCES JOAN BRADSHAW. CHRISTY HAUBEGER PRODUCED JAMES L. BROOKS RICHARD SAKAL JULIE ANSEL

WRITTEN AND JAMES L. BROOKS

NOW PLAYING

CENTER EXIT 15B RT.118
OFF INTERSTATE 270
800-326-3264 #455

REGAL CINEMAS *ROCKVILLE CENTER 13

WASHINGTON, DC AMC MAZZA GALLERIE 7 5300 WISCONSIN AVE. N.W. (202) 537-9553

(202) 537-9553 LOEWS THEATRES) GEORGETOWN 3111 K STREET, NW 800-FANDANGO #821

MARYLAND

*ACADEMY 14

CINEPLEX ODEON

SORRY, NO PASSES ACCEPTED FOR THIS ENGAGEMENT.

MUVICO EGYPTIAN 24

(301) 681-226

REGAL CINEMAS BOWIE CROSSING BOWIE, MD 800-326-3264 #454

OEWS THEATRES
VHEATON PLAZA 11 OHOFFMAN CENTER 22

≯POTOMAC MILLS 18

NGFIELD MALL 10

REGAL CINEMAS POTOMAC YARD STADIUM 16 ALEXANDRIA, V 800-FANDANG

CINEMA ARTS THEATRE FAIRFAX, VA (703) 978-6991

NATIONAL AMUS ARLINGTON BLVD/LEE HWY

MULTIPLEX CINEMA MERRIFIELD, VA (703) 502-4060

CENTREVILLE, VA (703) 502-4060 NATIONAL AMUSEMENTS FAIRFAX CORNER 14: CINEMA DE LUX FAIRFAX, VA (703) 502-4060

• dts

RESTON TOWN CENTER MULTIPLEX

(703) 502-4060 PHOENIX THEAT

REGAL CINEMAS
BALLSTON
COMMON 12
BALLSTON COMMO
800-FANDANGO

SHOPPING CENTER STERLING, VA 800-FANDANGO #3

* $\overline{\mathbb{D}}$



REGAL CINEMAS COUNTRYSIDE 20 VA ANGO #394

A VERY LONG ENGAGEMENT

SPECIAL ENGAGEMENTS NOW PLAYING

four membership card will admit you and a guest to any performance at the following theatres: Landmark (Mon-Thur) & Loews: AMPAS, DGA, & SAG NOM. COM. Other theatres: AMPAS only

Check out 10 minutes of the film at Spanglish.com

LARGO BUSINESSES:

argo Town Center Metro

If your ad was here, it could be seen by thousands of Largo residents and shoppers.

Make your call to action to 175,000 daily **Express readers**, most of whom ride metro.

Call Kathryn Whitener at 202-334-4130 to place your message in Express.

express



METRO. WHEREVER YOU GO.

It's not just for work. Ride Metro to see people, visit places and enjoy events all over the area. On weekends, late at night, in the middle of the day—there's always a good time and place for Metro.



INFORMATION ANYTIME 202-637-7000

TTY 202-638-3780

MetroOpensDoors.com

Bugaboo Creek Gift Cards.

Purchase our gift cards for your friends and family and finish your holiday shopping in the comfort of our lodge-style restaurant.

Buy \$50 in gift cards and enjoy \$5 off your next visit to Bugaboo Creek.

-Call (301)499-6881for details.

Open New Years Eve and New Years Day

Located next to the

NEW Largo Town Center Metro

1100 Capital Center Blvd. Landover, MD 20774



Maryland Youth Ballet

Metro DC Dance Award Winner

THE **NUTCRACKER**

with Guest Artists Mark Jaster, With Guest Ands Mark Jaster, Alvin Mayes, and Austin St. John featuring Mark Giragosian, winner at the 2004 Youth America Grand Prix

Thurs, Dec 23 at 7pm Sun, Dec 26 at 1 & 7pm Mon, Dec 27 at 1pm Tues, Dec 28 at 11am & 5pm Wed, Dec 29 at 1pm

Adults \$22 (\$20 advance) Child/Stu/Srs \$15 (\$14 advance)

Tickets only thru the Box Office: 301-279-5301 M-F, 10AM-6PM

in person at the Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center Montgomery College 51 Mannakee St, Rockville

or online
www.montgomerycollege.edu/PAC

INFO: 301-652-2232

THE SHAKESPEARE THEATRE "Miraculous...across the board entertainment!"

"Magical! A must see!"

By William Shakespeare Directed by Mary Zimmerman TKTS/INFO: (202) 547-1122

shakespearetheatre.org Su/Tu/We 7:30; Th/Fr/Sa 8; Sa/Su Mat 2 MONDAY 12/20 AT 7:30!

♣ 4507th St., NW 2

Musical Political Satire

"They're the best! There's no one like them, no one in their league!"
—Larry King, *CNN*

"Non-stop hilarious...four stars."

FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS AT 7:30 PM

No Show Fri., Dec. 24 or Sat., Dec. 25 Show Added Sun., Dec. 26 New Year's Performances 7:30 PM New Year's Eve 7:30 PM New Year's Day

at The Ronald Reagan Bldg and International Trade Center. 1300 Pennsylvania Ave.. NW

INFO: 202-312-1555 Tickets available through TicketMaster at (202) 397-SEAT or

www.ticketmaster.com Group Sales: 202-312-1427

To purchase Capitol Steps CD's & cassettes, for booking info: CALL: 703-683-8330 or visit www.capsteps.com

THEY'RE NOT IEAN VALJEAN'S JEANS

Nor are they Norma Jean's jeans. They're just to-die-for designer denims that outgrew you or vice versa. So sell them. With a Post Classified.

3 lines • 3 days • \$25 202-334-6200

Offer valid for non-business use only. Other restrictions may apply.

Capsule Reviews

of shows playing on Washington's screens and stages, Fridays in Weekend

CLASSES, AUDITIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

4505 Stanford St, 2nd Floor Chevy Chase, MD 20815

WINTER **CLASSES**

January 10 - April 10, 2005

OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, Jan 8 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Meet WSS Winter Faculty, register for classes, and take part in a free drawing class

Fri, Jan 14 at 6pm Slide Lecture: Paint & WSS Faculty Member,

Susan Yanero www.washingtonstudioschool.com

Express Art

appears Thursdays in Express

The deadline for ad copy is: Monday at 12 noon

For information about advertising in the Express Arts Directory, call:

Raymond Boyer 202-334-7006 or Emily Wu 202-334-7047

FAX AD COPY TO: 202-334-6724

WHAT'S NEW ON VIDEO?

See Friday's Weekend and Sunday's TV Week.

express nonstopstimulation

READ THIS

BECAUSE THERE'S A CHANCE SOMEONE CLOSE TO YOU CAN'T.

A lot of people in DC have some trouble with reading or math. Now there are programs designed to help adults get the skills they need or their GED. These programs are free or low cost and near bus or Metro stops.











1-866-READ-OUT (1-866-732-3688)

express

living large?



How do you make the most of your small space — and even smaller budget? Send a photo and description of your decorating or organizational solution, and we might just feature it in "Watch This Space," on Fridays in the Home & Shopping section.

Email with your info to: home@readexpress.com.

Or mail to: Home Editor, Express P.O. Box 17370 Arlington, VA 22216.



Weekend

24 | EXPRESS | 12.23.2004



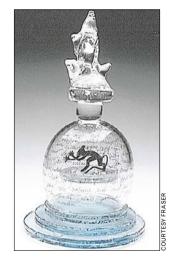
Continued from page 22

SIGHT

Anacostia Museum: All the Stories Are True: African-American Writers Speak. through Dec. 3I. Selected Works by William H. Smith, through Dec. 31. 1901 Fort Place SE; 202-287-2061.

Arthur M. Sackler Gallery: Dream Worlds: Modern Japanese Prints and Paintings, through Jan. 2. Arts of Mughal India, through Feb. 6. Asia in America: Views of Chinese Art From the Indianapolis Museum of Art, through March 20. Iraq and China: Ceramics, Trade and Innovation, through April 24. Cai Guo-Qiang: Traveler, through April 24. 1050 Independence Ave. SW; 202-357-4880.

AST CHANCE Conner Contemporary Art: Erik Sandberg, ends today. 1730 Connecticut Ave.; 202-588-8750. Corcoran Gallery of Art: Michelle



BOTTLE IMP: Fraser Gallery Bethesda's Winter Group Show features local works such as Tim Tate's "Devil Apothecary."

Repiso: Stills, through Jan 10. Sacrifices & Sorrows: Selected Bronzes by Jeffrey Meizlik, through Jan 24. Chermayeff & Geismar Inc: Designing Over Four Decades, through Jan. 31, Common Ground, through Jan. 31. Inventions: Recent Paintings by Caio Fonseca. through Feb. 14. Figuratively Speaking: Continued on following page

HEADS UP: Smithsonian museums are closed on Christmas Day; call museums, galleries and theaters this weekend for holiday schedules.

XX376 2x6

Entertainment WeekendP



Continued from preceding page

The Human Form in American Art, through May 23. 500 I7th St. NW; 202-639-I700.

Folger Shakespeare Library: Letter-Writing in Renaissance England, through April 2. 201 East Capitol St. SE; 202-544-

Fraser Gallery Bethesda: Winter Group Exhibit, through Jan. 12. 7700E Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda: 301-718-9651

Fraser Gallery Georgetown: F. Lennox Campello, through Jan. 19. 1054 31st St. NW: 202-298-6450.

Freer Gallery of Art: Work and Commerce in Chinese Painting, through Jan. 17. Life and Leisure: Everyday Life in Japanese Painting, through Feb. 20, Young Whistler: Early Prints and the French Set, through March 13. Luxury and Luminosity, through June 26. I2th Street and Jefferson Drive SW: 202-357-2700.

Govinda Gallery: Kate Simon: Rebel Music through Jan 15 1227 34th St NW 202-333-1180

Hirshhorn Museum: Ana Mendieta: Earth, Body, Sculpture and Performance 1972-1985, through Jan. 2. Cai Guo-Qiang: Traveler, through April 24. Independence Avenue at 7th Street SW: 202-633-4674

Irvine Contemporary Art: Time and Materials, through Jan. 15. 1710 Connecticut Ave. NW: 202-332-8767.

Kathleen Ewing Gallery: Christopher Burkett: Resplendent Light, through Jan. 8. I609 Connecticut Ave. NW; 202-328-0955

Library of Congress: From Haven to Home: 350 Years of Jewish Life in America, through Dec. 30. 10 lst St. SE; 202-707-5000.

National Building Museum: Five Friends From Japan: Children in Japan Today, through Feb. 13. Liquid Stone: New Architecture in Concrete, through April 17. Washington: Symbol and City, permanent exhibition. 40I F St. NW; 202-272-2448.

National Gallery of Art: All the Mighty World: The Photographs of Roger Fenton, through Jan. 2. Dan Flavin, a Retrospective, through Jan. 9. American Masters: From Bingham to Eakins, through Jan. 30. Gerard Ter Borch, through Jan. 30. Palace and Mosque: Islamic Art From the Victoria and Albert Museum, through Feb. 6. Six Centuries of Prints and Drawings: Recent Acquisitions, through Feb. 21. Fauve Painting From the Permanent Collection, opens Sun., through May 30. 600 Constitution Ave. NW; 202-737-4215

National Geographic Society: Pas-

sages: Photographs of Africa, through Jan. 9. Mapping With Paper and Pixel, through Feb. I3. I7th and M streets NW; 202-857-7588

National Museum of African Art:

Treasures, through Aug. 15. The Art of the Personal Object, permanent, Ceram ics at NMAA, permanent. 950 Independence Ave. SW: 202-633-4600

National Museum of American History: The American Presidency: A Glorious Burden, through Dec. 31. Taking America to Lunch, through Dec. 31. The Beatles! Backstage and Behind the Scenes, through Jan. 2. The Photography of War: World War II Photographic Perspectives, through Jan. 2. Vote! The **MUSEUMS | RED ALERT**



SPARKLE PLENTY: With the crowds gone, get as close as you ever will to the Carmen Lucia Ruby at Natural History.

Machinery of Democracy, through Jan. 30. Ralph Bunche: African-American/ Global Citizen, through March 31. Sports: Breaking Barriers, Breaking Records, through April 7. Brown v. Board of Education, through May 31. 14th Street and Con-

National Museum of the American Indian: 4th Street and Jefferson Drive SW. 202-633-1000.

stitution Avenue NW; 202-633-1000.

National Museum of Natural History:

In Focus: National Geographic Greatest Portraits, through Jan. 2, 10th Street and Constitution Avenue NW; 202-357-2700.

National Museum of Women in the

Arts: Feminist Works on Paner from the Permanent Collection, through March 13.

Janet Culbertson: The Mythmaker Series, through Feb. 6. Pablo Pottery: A Living Tradition, through May 15. 1250 New York Ave. NW: 202-783-5000.

Octagon Museum: Doodles, Drafts and Designs: Industrial Drawings From the Smithsonian Institution, through April 30 1799 New York Ave. NW; 202-638-3105.

The Phillips Collection: Calder Miró. through Jan. 23, 1600 21st St. NW: 202-387-2151

Transformer Gallery: Rejoice!, through Jan. 22. I404 P St. NW: 202-483-II02.

U.S. Botanic Garden: Home for the Holidays: A Sentimental Journey, through Jan. 9. 245 lst St. SW: 202-225-8333.

Continued on page 26

When two families get together for the holidays what could possibly go wrong?

Robert De Niro

Ben Stiller

Dustin Hoffman

Barbra Streisand



UNIVERSAL PICTURES AND DREAMWORKS PICTURES PRESENT A TRIBECA / EVERYMAN PICTURES PRODUCTION A JAY ROACH FILM ROBERT DENIRO BEN STILLER DUSTIN HOFFMAN AND BARBRA STREISAND 'MEET THE FOCKERS'

BLYTHE DANNER TERI POLO MUSIC RANDY NEWMAN BASEO ON CHARACTERS GREG GLIENNA & MARY RUTH CLARKE

"ROBINITATIONAL ROBERT DENIRO JAY ROACH
"WARLSE SAGABANDO" PRODUCCIS NANCY TENENBAUM AMY SAYRES PRODUCED JANE ROSENTHAL ROBERT DENIRO JAY ROACH
"WARLSE SAGABANDO" PRODUCCIS NANCY TENENBAUM AMY SAYRES PRODUCED JANE ROSENTHAL ROBERT DENIRO JAY ROACH
"WARLSE SAGABANDO" PRODUCCIS NANCY TENENBAUM SCRIENPLAY JIM HERZFELD AND JOHN HAMBURG "ORIGITA JAY ROACH

AMC RIVERTOWNE 12

CINEPLEX ODEON ST. CHARLES TOWNE CTR. 9

CONSOLIDATED THEATRES
MAJESTIC 20

KENTLANDS STADIUM 10

LOEWS CENTERPARK 8

AMC POTOMAC MILLS 18

AMC SPRINGFIELD MALL 10

INEMA ARTS THEATRE

*Free Movie Ticket To See "Meet The Fockers" When You Buy The New "Meet The Parents" Bonus Edition DVD

NOW **PLAYING**

AMC UNION STATION 9 VISCONSIN Cinemas 6

LOEWS GEORGETOWN

REGAL GALLERY PLACE STADIUM 14 MARYLAND

AMC ACADEMY 14 AMC COLUMBIA 14

LOEWS WHEATON PLAZA 11

LOEWS RIO 18

MUVICO EGYPTIAN 24 P&G MONTGOMERY MALL

REGAL CINEMAS BETHESDA REGAL CINEMAS SOWIE CINEMA 14 REGAL CINEMAS

CINEMA 14 REGAL CINEMAS ROCKVILLE CENTER 13

NC DFFMAN CENTER 22 & Telegraph

CHECK THEATRE D

NATIONAL AMUSEMENTS
ARLINGTON BLVD/
LEE HIGHWAY
MULTIPLEX CINEMA
Merrifield VA (703) 502-

CINEPLEX ODEON TYSONS FAIRFAX

SQUARE 8

POTOMAC YARD CINEMA 16 Rte. 1 off S. Glebe Rd. (703) 739-4040

RESTON TOWN CENTER MULTIPLEX CINEMA

PHOENIX THEATRES WORLDGATE 9

Herndon, VA (703) 318-9290

REGAL CINEMAS BALLSTON COMMONS 12

REGAL CINEMAS COUNTRYSIDE 20

REGAL CINEMAS IN MANASSAS

REGAL CINEMAS



If you believe in love at first sight, you never stop looking.

RESTRICTED (1990) R OF GRAPHIC SEVUAL DIALOGUE NUDITY/SEXUALITY AND LA

sony.com/Closer

REGAL CINEMAS

*MANASSAS CINEMA 14

ROUTE 66 TO EXIT 47R

NATIONAL AMUSEMENTS
ARLINGTON

BLVD/LEE HWY MULTIPLEX CINEMA

MERRIFIELD, VA (703) 502-4060

VIRGINIA

NOW PLAYING

WASHINGTON, DC CINEPLEX ODEON WISCONSIN AVE. CINEMAS 6

LOEWS THEATRES GEORGETOWN 3111 K STREET, NW 800-FANDANGO #821

REGAL CINEMAS
GALLERY PLACE
STADIUM 14
707 SEVENTH ST. NW
WASHINGTON, DC
800-FANDANGO
(202) 393-2121

MARYLAND *RIO CINEMA 18

GAITHERSBURG, MD 800-FANDANGO #740

CONSOLIDATED
MAJESTIC 20
SILVER SPRINGS, MD SILVER SPRINGS (301) 681-2266 • KENTLANDS

STADIUM 10

MARYLAND LANDMARK THEATRES BETHESDA ROW 7235 WOODMONT AVE. (301) 652-7273 MARYLAND & E. MONTGOMERY AVES. 800-FANDANGO #248

LOEWS THEATRES
*WHEATON PLAZA 11 WHEATON, MD 800-FANDANGO #746 MUVICO EGYPTIAN 24

(443)755-8992 P&G MONTGOMERY MALL CINEMAS

BETHESDA 301-767-9555

REGAL CINEMAS *BOWIE CROSSING CINEMA 14 BOWIE, MD 800-326-3264 #454 REGAL CINEMAS GERMANTOWN CINEMA 14
GERMANTOWN TOWN
CENTER EXIT 15B RT.118
OFF INTERSTATE 270
800-326-3264 #455

P&G OLD GREENBELT 301-474-9744

MARYLAND REGAL CINEMAS *ROCKVILLE CENTER 13

VIRGINIA

O AMC *COURTHOUSE PLAZA 8 ARLINGTON, VA (703) 998-4AMC

AMC HOFFMAN CENTER 22

O AMC ***POTOMAC MILLS 18**

WOODBRIDGE, V (703) 998-4AMC CINEPLEX ODEON *FAIRFAX SQUARE 8

CINEPLEX ODEON SHIRLINGTON 7

CC DIGITAL

NATIONAL AMUSEMENTS

• FAIRFAX CORNER 14:
CINEMA DE LUX
FAIRFAX, VA
(703) 502-4060 NATIONAL AMUSEMENTS
• RESTON TOWN
CENTER MULTIPLEX CINEMA RESTON, VA (703) 502-4060

REGAL CINEMAS *COUNTRYSIDE 20 COUNTRYSIDE SHOPPING CENTER STERLING, VA 900-FANDANGO #394

ENGAGEMENT.



SORRY, NO PASSES



Continued from page 25

STAGE

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer:

through Dec. 30, I:30 & 3:30 p.m. (Thu. & Sun.), \$14. Kennedy Center, 2700 F St. NW: 202-467-4600.

African Heritage Dancers and Drummers Kwanzaa Celebration: Sun.,

7:30 p.m. (\$20), Lincoln Theatre, I2I5 U St NW: 800-551-7328

A Broadway Christmas Carol: through Dec. 30, 8 p.m. (Thu.), 3 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

(Sun.), \$30. Round House Theatre, 8641 Colesville Road, Silver Spring; 240-644-HOO.

Carousel: through Dec. 31, \$15-\$26, Olnev Theatre Center for the Arts, 2001 Olnev-Sandy Spring Road, Olney, Md.; 301-924-3400

A Christmas Carol: A Ghost Story of

Christmas: through Jan. 2, 2:30 & 7:30 n.m. (Thu. & Sun.), \$16-\$48, Ford's Theatre, 5II I0th St. NW; 202-347-

The Fever: through Jan. 3, 7:30 p.m. (Thu.), 3 p.m. (Sun.), \$15-\$25. Warehouse Theater,

AMERICANA: The stars of the new "Tom Sawyer."



1021 7th St. NW; 703-684-7990.

Hallelujah, Baby! through Feb. 13, 8 p.m. (Thu.), 7:30 p.m. (Sun.), \$47-\$66. Arena Stage, IIOI 6th St. SW: 202-488-3300.

LAST CHANCE The Importance of

Being Earnest: ends Sun., 8 p.m. (Thu.), 7:30 p.m. (Sun.), Arena Stage, IIOI 6th St. SW, \$40-\$59; 202-488-3300.

Irish Song and Dance, Sun., 6 p.m., free. Kennedy Center, Millennium Stage. 2700 F St. NW; 202-467-4600.

> The Nutcracker: Maryland Youth Ballet, through Dec. 29, 7 p.m. (Thu. & Sun.), I p.m. (Sun.), \$20 adults, \$14 students and ages 65 and up. Montgomery College,

Continued on next page

Experience the Difference,

Magical. AMC Entertainment Cards make the perfect gift.



Matinee price for all shows until 6 pm. Advanced Ticketing available at MovieWatcher.com. R-Rating requires ID. CC - Closed Caption · p) - Descriptive Video · OC - Open Caption

HOFFMANN CENTER 22

THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA (PG13) \(\square\) 11:45, 3:00, 6:15.

THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA (DVS) (PG13) ✓ 12:15,

3:40, 7:15, 10:30 **DESCRIPTIVE VIDEO SERVICE MEET THE FOCKERS (PG13)** / 11:30, 12:30, 1:00, 2:05, 3:10, 4:00, 4:50, 6:05, 7:00, 7:45, 9:00, 10:00, 10:45 4.00, 4.30, 0.03, 7.00, 7.43, 3.00, 10.00, 10.43 ✓ 12:05, 1:05, 2:40, 4:10,

5:45, 7:10, 8:20, 10:05, 10:05 **LEMONY SNICKET (PG)** ✓ 12:00, 1:30, 2:30, 4:30, 5:30, 7:30, 8:15,

SPANGLISH (PG13) ✓ 11:50, 12:30, 3:15, 3:50, 6:20, 7:05, 9:50,

OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG13) 11:35, 12:45, 1:15, 2:20, 3:30, 4:15,

BLADE: TRINITY (R) 11:40, 1:45, 2:15, 4:30, 5:00, 7:25, 8:00, 10:10,

CLOSER (R) 12:35, 3:25, 6:25, 9:20
HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS (PG13) / 5:10, 7:55, 10:40
CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS (PG) 2:45, 10:15

CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS (PG) 2:49, 10:15 FINDING NEVERLAND (PG) 12:20, 2:50, 5:25, 8:05, 10:35 BRIDGET JONES 2 (R) 7:35 NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) 12:10, 3:20, 6:40, 9:35 SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (PG) 12:25 PM THE POLAR EXPRESS (G) 11:30, 2:00, 4:40 THE INCREDIBLES (PG) 11:35, 2:20, 5:20, 8:10, 10:55

COURTHOUSE PLAZA 8

Courthouse and Birch Rd. 703-998-4AMC

FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX (PG13) ✓ 12:00, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50,

10:20
BLADE: TRINITY (R) 1:20, 4:20, 7:30, 10:00
CLOSER (R) 1:45, 4:30, 7:00, 9:40
ALEXANDER (R) 9:30 PM
CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS (PG) 12:00, 2:20, 5:30, 7:45,

NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) 1:00, 4:00, 7:15, 10:10 SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (PG) 12:30, 2:45, 5:00 THE POLAR EXPRESS (G) 12:15, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10 RAY (PG13) 7:00, 10:05 SIDEWAYS (R) 1:30, 4:45, 7:30, 10:10

POTOMAC MILLS 18

2700 Potomac Mills Circle, Ste 886 703-998-4262

THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA (PG13) \(\square\) 10:00, 1:20, 4:30. MEET THE FOCKERS (PG13) ✓ 10:20, 12:10, 1:00, 2:50, 4:00, 5.33, 7.00, 6.20, 10.00, 11.00 FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX (PG13) ✓ 11:00, 1:40, 4:25, 7:20,

LEMONY SNICKET (PG) ✓ 10:50, 12:00, 1:30, 2:40, 4:10, 5:20, 6:50, 8:00, 9:30, 10:40 **SPANGLISH (PG13)** ✓ 11:15, 12:30, 2:00, 3:30, 5:00, 6:30, 7:55, 9:40,

OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG13) 11:10, 1:10, 2:05, 4:20, 5:45, 7:30, 8:40,

1030, 11:15
OCEAN'S TWELVE (DVS) (PG13) 12:20, 3:15, 6:20, 9:20
DESCRIPTIVE VIDEO SERVICE
BLADE: TRINITY (R) 12:10, 2:45, 5:30, 8:10, 10:45
CLOSER (R) 12:50, 3:10, 5:40, 8:05, 10:35
CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS (PG) 11:30, 2:10, 4:35, 7:10, 9:35

9:35 FINDING NEVERLAND (PG) 5:10, 7:40, 10:15 NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) 4:20, 7:20, 10:20 SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (PG) 10:10 AM, 12:30 PM KINSEY (R) 1:50, 4:40, 7:45, 10:25 THE POLAR EXPRESS (G) 10:00, 12:15, 2:35 THE INCREDIBLES (PG) 10:30, 1:25, 4:15, 7:10, 9:55

MAZZA GALLERIE

202-537-9553

SPANGLISH (DVS) (PG13) 12:30, 1:15, 3:30, 4:15, 6:30, 7:15, 9:30, 10:00 DESCRIPTIVE VIDEO SERVICE
OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG13) 1:00, 1:30, 3:45, 4:20, 7:00, 7:30, 9:45,

BRIDGET JONES 2 (R) 7:45, 10:05 NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) 12:00, 12:35, 3:00, 3:35, 5:45, 6:40, 8:30, 9:35 THE POLAR EXPRESS (G) 12:45, 3:05, 5:30

ACADEMY 8 Beltway Plaza on Greenbelt Rd., Center Court 703-998-4AMC

MEET THE FOCKERS (PG13) ✓ 2:00, 5:10, 8:00, 10:40
FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX (PG13) ✓ 1:50, 4:50, 7:40, 10:20
LEMONY SNICKET (PG) ✓ 1:40, 4:40, 7:30, 10:00
SPANGLISH (PG13) ✓ 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 10:10
OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG13) 1:00, 4:30, 7:20, 10:10
BLADE: TRINITY (R) 1:250, 1:30, 4:00, 5:00, 7:00, 7:50, 9:50, 10:30
NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 10:00

COLUMBIA MALL 14

10300 Patuxent Parkway 410-423-0520

MEET THE FOCKERS (PG13) ✓ 12:00, 2:45, 5:30, 8:15, 10:55 FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX (PG13) \(\sigma \) 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:15

LEMONY SNICKET (PG) \(\sigma \) 1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50

SPANGLISH (PG13) \(\sigma \) 1:50, 4:00, 7:05, 10:10

OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG13) 1:10, 4:20, 7:25, 10:25 OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG13) 1:10, 4:20, 7:25, 10:25
BLADE: TRINITY (R) 12:40, 3:20, 6:45, 7:45, 9:30, 10:30
CLOSER (R) 12:30, 2:50, 5:20, 8:00, 10:35
CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS (PG) 1:40, 4:15, 6:50, 9:45
FINDING NEVERLAND (PG) 2:20, 4:50, 7:25, 9:55
NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30
SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (PG) 12:30, 2:40, 5:00
THE POLAR EXPRESS (G) 2:30, 5:05, 7:40, 10:05
THE INCREDIBLES (PG) 2:00, 4:55, 7:50, 10:35
SIDEWAYS (R) 1:15, 4:15, 7:10, 10:00

COUNTRY CLUB MALL 6

Country Club Mall on Vocke Rd near Route 68 703-998-4AMC

MEET THE FOCKERS (PG13) \(\times \) 12:00, 2:40, 5:20, 8:00, 10:35 FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX (PG13) \(\times \) 1:30, 7:15 LEMONY SNICKET (PG) \(\times \) 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:05 SPANGLISH (PG13) \(\times \) 1:15, 4:00, 7:00, 9:55 CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS (PG) 4:15, 9:45
NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) 1:15, 4:00, 7:00, 9:55
SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (PG) 12:15, 5:00 THE POLAR EXPRESS (G) 2:20, 7:30, 9:45

UNION STATION 9

Located at Union Station 703-998-4AMC

MEET THE FOCKERS (PG13) ✓ 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00

FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX (DVS) (PG13) 7 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00 BESCRIPTIVE VIDEO SERVICE LEMONY SNICKET (PG) 7 12:00, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:20 OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG13) 12:30, 1:30, 3:30, 4:45, 6:30, 7:40, 9:30, 10:30 OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG13) 12:30, 1:30, 3:30, 4:45, 6:30, 7:40, 9:30, 10:30 OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG13) 12:30, 1:30, 3:30, 4:45, 6:30, 7:40, 9:30, 10:30 OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG13) 12:30, 1:30, 3:30, 4:45, 6:30, 7:40, 9:30, 10:30 OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG13) 12:30, 1:30, 3:30, 4:45, 6:30, 7:40, 9:30, 10:30 OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG13) 12:30, 1:30, 3:30, 4:45, 6:30, 7:40, 9:30, 10:30 OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG13) 12:30, 1:30, 3:30, 4:45, 6:30, 7:40, 9:30, 10:30 OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG13) 12:30, 1:30, 3:30, 4:45, 6:30, 7:40, 9:30, 10:30 OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG13) 12:30, 1:30, 3:30, 4:45, 6:30, 7:40, 9:30, 10:30 OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG13) 12:30, 1:30, 3:30, 4:45, 6:30, 7:40, 9:30, 10:30 OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG13) 12:30, 1:30, 3:30, 4:45, 6:30, 7:40, 9:30, 10:30 OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG13) 12:30, 1:30, 3:30, 4:45, 6:30, 7:40, 9:30, 10:30 OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG13) 12:30, 1:30, 3:30, 4:45, 6:30, 7:40, 9:30, 10:30 OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG13) 12:30, 1:30, 3:30, 4:45, 6:30, 7:40, 9:30, 10:30 OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG13) 12:30, 1:30, 3:30, 4:45, 6:30, 7:40, 9:30, 10:30 OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG13) 12:30, 1:30, 3:30, 4:45, 6:30, 7:40, 9:30, 10:30 OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG13) 12:30, 1:30, 3:30, 4:45, 6:30, 7:40, 9:30, 10:30 OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG13) 12:30, 1:30, 3:30, 4:45, 6:30, 7:40, 9:30, 10:30 OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG13) 12:30, 1:30, 3:30,

10:30
BLADE: TRINITY (R) 1:15, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45
NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) 1:00, 4:10, 7:10, 10:10
SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (PG) 1:215, 2:45, 5:00
THE INCREDIBLES (PG) 1:45, 4:30, 7:30, 10:15
RAY (PG13) 7:10, 10:20

RIVERTOWNE 12 Exit 4A I-95, 1/2 mi. on Oxon Hill Rd. 703-998-4AMC

MEET THE FOCKERS (PG13) 1:40, 4:40, 7:30, 10:10 DEEMONY SNICKET (PG) 1:50, 4:50, 7:20, 10:00

OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG13) 1:40, 4:40, 7:30

BLADE: TRINITY (R) 1:10, 2:10, 4:10, 5:10, 7:00, 8:00, 9:40

CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS (PG) 2:20, 5:20, 7:50, 10:15 NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) 2:00, 5:00, 8:00 SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (PG) 2:30, 5:30, 7:50, 10:00 THE POLAR EXPRESS (G) 1:20, 1:30, 4:00, 4:30, 6:50, 7:10, 9:30,

THE INCREDIBLES (PG) 1:30, 4:30, 7:20, 10:10 RAY (PG13) 1:00, 4:20, 7:40

ACADEMY 6

Beltway Plaza on Greenbelt Rd., West Court 703-998-4AMC

ALEXANDER (R) 9:50 PM CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS (PG) 12:50, 3:10, 5:30, 7:50,

SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (PG) 12:40, 2:50, 5:00 AFTER THE SUNSET (PG13) 1:30, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40 THE POLAR EXPRESS (G) 1:20, 4:30, 7:20 THE INCREDIBLES (PG) 1:10, 4:40, 7:40, 10:30 RAY (PG13) 1:00, 4:00, 7:10, 10:20 THE GRUDGE (PG13) 7:30, 10:00

SPRINGFIELD MALL 10

Loisdale and Franconia Road 703-971-3991

MEET THE FOCKERS (PG13) ✓ 1:30, 4:20, 7:20, 10:10 FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX (PG13) ✓ 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:15 ELEMONY SNICKET (PG) ✓ 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 9:5 SPANGLISH (PG13) ✓ 12:45, 3:50, 7:00, 10:00 OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG13) 1:00, 4:00, 7:10, 8:00, 10:10 BLADE: TRINITY (R) 1:45, 4:40, 7:30, 10:15 CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS (PG) 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 9:45 NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) 12:45, 3:50, 7:00, 10:05 THE POLAR EXPRESS (G) 2:00, 5:00 THE INCREDIBLES (PG) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:40

Y-SPECIAL ENGAGEMENT-No passes or discount coupons please.

Entertainment WeekendPass



Continued from preceding page

Parilla Performing Arts Center, 5I Mannanakee St., Rockville; 30I-652-2232 or 301-279-5301.

The Nutcracker: The Puppet Company, through Dec. 3I, IO & II:30 a.m. (Thu.), II:30 a.m. & I p.m. (Sun.), \$7. The Puppet Company Playhouse, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo; 30I-320-6668.

The Nutcracker: The Washington Ballet. 7 p.m. (Thu.), I p.m. (Fri. & Sun.), 5 p.m.

(Sun.), \$25-\$69. Warner Theatre, 513 13th St. NW; 800-551-7328.

Our Lady of I2Ist Street: through Jan. 2. 8 p.m. (Thu.), 2 & 7 p.m. (Sun.), \$24-\$42. Kennedy Center, 2700 F St. NW; 202-467-4600.

Pericles: through Jan. 2, 8 p.m. (Thu.), 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. (Sun.), \$23-\$68.

Shakespeare Theatre, 450 7th St. NW; 202-547-1122

Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka: ends Sun., 3 p.m. (Thu.), I p.m. (Thu. & Sun.), \$14. Kennedy Center, 2700 F St. NW; 202-467-4600.

LAST CHANCE Thoroughly Modern Millie: end Sun., 7:30 p.m. (Thu., Sat. &

Sun.), I:30 p.m. (Sat. & Sun.), \$35-\$93. Kennedy Center, 2700 F St. NW; 202-467-4600

Titus Andronicus: Washington Shakespeare Company, through Dec. 31, 8 p.m. (Thu.), 2 p.m. (Sun.), \$22-\$30. Clark Street Playhouse, 60I S. Clark St., Arlington: 703-418-4808.

express movie showtimes



Free \$5 Concession Coupon & Free Holiday Greeting Card with every Gift Card purchase of \$25 or more.



Bargain Shows in ()

Showtimes for: 12/23/04

WHEATON PLAZA 11 Viere Mill Rd Rhyn Georgia & Uni

BI ADE: TRINITY (R) (ON 2 SCREENS) (12:20 3:00 4:15 5:30)8:00 9:40 10:20 OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG-13) (ON 2 SCREENS) (1:30 4:10)7:20 10:10 ★ FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX (PG-13) (2:00 4:30)7:05 9:40 CLOSER (R) (12:40 3:20)6:10 9:20

THE INCREDIBLES (PG) (12:10 2:50 5:20)8:05 10:30 ALEXANDER (R) 9:00

THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS MOVIE (PG) (1:10 3:40)6:40 RAY (PG-13) 7:00 10:00

THE POLAR EXPRESS (G) (2:10 5:00) LEMONY SNICKET'S A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS (PG)

(1:40 4:20)7:30 9:50 ★ SPANGLISH (PG-13) (12:00 3:10)6:20 9:10

NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) (1:00 4:00)7:10 10:00 ★ MEET THE FOCKERS (PG-13) (12:50 4:15)6:50 9:40



THE INCREDIBLES (PG) (1:10 3:40)6:40 9:20

★ MEET THE FOCKERS (PG-13) (12:05 2:40 5:15)7:40 10:10 * LEMONY SNICKET'S A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS (PG (12:00 2:20 4:40)7:00 9:30

★ SPANGLISH (PG-13) (12:40 3:30)6:30 9:40 CLOSER (R) (12:20 2:50 5:10)7:30 10:10 OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG-13) (12:50 3:50)7:10 9:50

* FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX (PG-13) (12:10 2:30 4:50)7:20 10:00

THE POLAR EXPRESS (G) (1:00) NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) (3:20)6:50 9:45

JOHNSON THEATRES
CAPITAL CENTER
800 Shopper's way, Largo 301-324 301-324-4220 BLADE: TRINITY (R) (12:40 3:40)6:40 9:40

THE POLAR EXPRESS (G) (11:50 2:30 5:30) THE POLAR EAPTHSS (9)(11-101-140 4:10)7:50 10:50 CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS (PG)-13) (11:10 1:40 4:10)6:45 9:10 NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) (1:00 4:00)7:00 10:00 THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS MOVIE (PG)(11:05 1:05 4:05)7:05

BLADE: TRINITY (R) 9:00

LEMONY SNICKET'S A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS (PG) LEMONY SNICKETS A SERIES OF UNFORTUNE EXECUTE (12.0 2:00 4:40)7:40 10:40

OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG-13) (on 2 SCREENS) (11:45 2:15 5:15)8:15 10:45

RAY (PG-13) (11:30 3:00)6:30 10:35

THE INCREDIBLES (PG) (12:00 3:05)6:05 9:05 * OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG-13) (ON 2 SCREENS) (11:15 4:15)10:05 BLADE: TRINITY (R) (1:45)7:20

★ MEET THE FOCKERS (PG-13) (1:30 4:30)7:30 10:30

Cineplex Odeon DUPONT CIRCLE 5 1350 19th Street 20

WHAT THE BLEEP! DO WE KNOW?! (NR) (1:40 4:20)7:10 9:50 THE MOTORCYCLE DIARIES (R) (1:00 3:50)6:50 9:45 RIDGET JONES: THE EDGE OF REASON (R) (2:00 4:40)7:20 10:00

INSEY (R) (ON 2 SCREENS) (1:20 4:10)7:00 9:40

INDING NEVERLAND (PG) (1:10 3:40)6:30 9:20



RAY (PG-13) (1:00 4:30)8:00
Advanced tickets on sale now for The Aviator

301-948-090

CLOSER (R) (12:20 3:15 5:45)8:30 10:50 CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS (PG) (12:50 3:30 5:50)8:10 10:30 * HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS (PG-13) (11:50 2:40 5:40)8:20 10:55

BLADE: TRINITY (R) (ON 2 SCREENS) (1:30 4:20)7:10 9:50 ★ MEET THE FOCKERS (PG-13) (ON 2 SCREENS) (12:20 3:10)6:10 9:10 THE POLAR EXPRESS (G) (11:40 2:00 4:40)

OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG-13) 7:00 10:05 SIDEWAYS (R) (1:00 3:50)6:50 9:40

FINDING NEVERLAND (PG) (12:30 3:00 5:30)8:00 10:20 ★ MEET THE FOCKERS (PG-13) (ON 2 SCREENS) (11:20 2:10 5:00)7:50 10:40 ★ FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX Rear Window Captioning (PG-13)

(12:15 3:20)6:05 8:40 11:00 THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS MOVIE (PG) (12:10 2:30 4:50)7:00 8:50 * LEMONY SNICKET'S A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS (PG)

(ON 2 SCREENS) (11:30 2:20 5:00)7:40 10:10 THE INCREDIBLES (PG) (1:05 4:05)7:05 9:45 **★ THE PHANTOM (PG)** (12:05 3:25)6:45 10:05 NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) (12:45 3:45)6:45 9:35 OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG-13) (12:25 3:15)6:15 9:05

★ LEMONY SNICKET'S A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS (PG)



★ A VERY LONG ENGAGEMENT (R) (1:45 4:45)8:00

www.enjoytheshow.com

SHIRLINGTON 2772 South Randolph

SIDEWAYS (R) (1:20 4:10)7:00 9:50 ★ THE PHANTOM (PG) (12:50 4:00)6:50 9:40 CLOSER (R) (1:10 4:30)7:10 9:30

KINSEY (R) (12:40 3:30)6:30 9:20 + HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS (PG-13) (1:10 4:20)7:20 10:00 **BEING JULIA (R)** (1:00 3:20)6:20 9:00

★ A VERY LONG ENGAGEMENT (R) (12:30 3:10)6:10 9:10



LEMONY SNICKET'S A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS (PG)

FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX (PG-13) (1:40 4:20)7:00 9:40 THE PHANTOM (PG) (2:00 5:10)8:20

MEET THE FOCKERS (PG-13) (1:00 3:40)6:30 9:20 CLOSER (R) (1:30 4:00)6:40 9:30 FINDING NEVERLAND (PG) (1:50 4:15)6:50 9:15

Cineplex Odeon ST. CHARLES TOWNE CTR. 9 11115 Mall Circle, Waldorf 301-645-0818

LEMONY SNICKET'S A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS (PG) NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) (12:40 3:25)6:10 8:55

OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG-13) (1:15 3:55)6:50 9:35 CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS (PG) (2:20 4:35)7:40 9:55

Chinal mas with 1 HERNAING (19/12-2-35)7-40-9-35 THE INCREDIBLES (PG) (1:40 4:10)6:35 9:05 ★ MEET THE FOCKERS (PG-13) (1:50 4:25)7:30 10:25 BLADE: TRINITY (R) (2:30 5:00)7:50 10:15 THE POLAR EXPRESS (G) (1:30 3:45)6:25

► SPANGLISH (PG-13) (12:50 3:35)7:00 10:05

Tickets, Times & More At FANDANGO.COM

No Passports Accepted



★ MEET THE FOCKERS (PG-13) (11:30 12:40 2:10 3:20 4:50)

6:00 7:30 8:40 10:10 *** THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA (PG-13)**(11:00 12:10 2.10 3.20 5.20) 6.30 8.30 9.40

★ SPANGLISH (PG-13) (ON 2 SCREENS) (11:00 1:50 4:40)6:10 7:30 9:00 10:20

★ HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS (PG-13) (1:20 4:00)6:40 9:20

► FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX(PG-13) (1:00 3:50)6:30 9:10 * LEMONY SNICKET'S A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS (PG) (11:30 2:00 4:30)7:10 9:40

OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG-13) (1:10 4:10)7:00 9:50 CLOSER (R) (12:40 3:00 5:20)7:40 10:00 SIDEWAYS (R) (1:30 4:20)7:20 10:10 BLADE: TRINITY (R) (12:10 3:50)10:50

NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) 6:00 8:50 THE INCREDIBLES (PG) (12:20 3:10) THE POLAR EXPRESS (G) (12:30 3:20) A CHRISTMAS STORY (PG) 7:00



* LEMONY SNICKET'S A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS (PG) (1:30 4:05)6:55 9:25

SPANGLISH (PG-13) (1:05 3:50)6:40 9:30

NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) (1:20 4:00)6:45 9:35

★ OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG–13) (1:10 3:45)6:30 9:15

★ A VERY LONG ENGAGEMENT (R) (1:00 3:55)6:50 9:45

Copyright 2004

Health. Personal Technology. Tuesdavs.



A REGAL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP COMPANY

DIG = DIGITAL SOUND BARGAIN SHOWS IN (

* Pass / Discount Ticket Restrictions Appl
Advance Tickets at FANDANGO.com and 800-FANDANGO

POTOMAC YARD STADIUM 16 3575 Jefferson Davis Hwy 800-FANDANGO 690# GALLERY PLACE STADIUM 14 BOWIE STADIUM 14
701 Seventh St NW 800-FANDANGO 1721# 5200 Major Lansdale Blvd 800-FANDANGO 4544

MEET THE FOCKERS (PG-13) DIG ★ (Stadium) (1105 1145 145 225 425 505) 705 745 945 1025

LEMONY SNICKET'S SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS (PG) DIG
★ (Stadium) (1125 155 430) 700 93 (18adium) (1125 155 430) 770 935 470 ANGLISH (PG-13) DIG ★ (Stadium) (115 155 430) 770 935 470 ANGLISH (PG-13) DIG ★ (Stadium) (115 200 445) 740 1030 LOSER (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (Stadium) (115 200 445) 740 1030 LOSER (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (Stadium) (1132 215 450) 720 935 ATONAL TREASURE (PG) DIG (Stadium) (105 405) 645 725 940 1020 ANGLAR EXPRESS (G) DIG (Stadium) (105 405) 645 725 940 1020 HE INCEDIBLES (PG) DIG (Stadium) (1100 150 435) 715 1010 ANGLAR (PG) 120 PROPERTIES (PG) DIG (Stadium) (1100 150 435) 715 1010 ANGLAR (PG) 120 PROPERTIES (PG) DIG (Stadium) (1100 150 435) 715 1010 ANGLAR (PG) 120 PROPERTIES (PG) DIG (Stadium) (1100 150 435) 715 1010 ANGLAR (PG) 120 PROPERTIES (PG) DIG (Stadium) (1100 150 435) 715 1010 ANGLAR (PG) 120 PROPERTIES (PG) DIG (Stadium) (1100 150 435) 715 1010 ANGLAR (PG) 120 PROPERTIES (PG) DIG (Stadium) (1100 150 435) 715 1010 ANGLAR (PG) 120 PROPERTIES (PG) DIG (Stadium) (1100 150 435) 715 1010 ANGLAR (PG) 120 PROPERTIES (PG) DIG (Stadium) (1100 150 435) 715 1010 ANGLAR (PG) 120 PROPERTIES (PG) DIG (Stadium) (1100 150 435) 715 1010 ANGLAR (PG) 120 PROPERTIES (PG) DIG (Stadium) (1100 150 435) 715 1010 ANGLAR (PG) 120 PROPERTIES (PG) DIG (Stadium) (1100 150 435) 715 1010 ANGLAR (PG) 120 PROPERTIES (PG) DIG (Stadium) (1100 150 435) 715 1010 ANGLAR (PG) 120 PROPERTIES (PG) DIG (Stadium) (1100 150 435) 715 1010 ANGLAR (PG) 120 PROPERTIES (PG) DIG (Stadium) (1100 150 435) 715 1010 ANGLAR (PG) 120 PROPERTIES (PG) DIG (Stadium) (1100 150 435) 715 1010 ANGLAR (PG) 120 PROPERTIES (PG) DIG (Stadium) (1100 150 435) 715 1010 ANGLAR (PG) 120 PROPERTIES (PG) DIG (Stadium) (1100 150 435) 715 1010 ANGLAR (PG) 120 PROPERTIES (PG) DIG (Stadium) (1100 150 435) 715 1010 ANGLAR (PG) 120 PROPERTIES (PG) DIG (Stadium) (1100 150 435) 715 1010 ANGLAR (PG) PROPERTIES (PG) PR

(1130 205 420) (1100 150 435) 715 1010 (1155 315) 640 1000 AAY (Pc-13) Duc(Stadium)

BALLSTON COMMON STADIUM 12
Ballston Common Mall, Glebe Rd, Arlington
(703) 527-9466 800-FANDANGO 377# (703) 527-9466

MEET THE FOCKERS (PG-13) DIG ★ (1110 1155 150 235 420 510) 710 800 945 1035 PHANTOM OF THE OPERA (PG-13) DIG (1040 1215 155 330 505) 700 815 1005 LEMONY SNICKET'S SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS (PG) DIG *
SPANIGLISH (PG-13) DIG *
HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS (PG-13) DIG
OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG-13) DIG
1035 100 130 400 435) 705 740 1000
1030 1035 100 130 400 435) 705 740 1000

FINDING NEVERLAND (PG) DIG KINSEY (R) - ID REQ'D DIG THE INCREDIBLES (PG) DIG

1030 (1050 120 410) 650 940 (1115 200 440) 730 1015 (1025 125 415) 655 950

5200 Major Lansidale Bivit 100 FAINDAING 18-58.

MEET THE FOCKERS (PG-13) Dig ★ (1230 130 330 430)

LEMONN SNICKET'S SERIES OF UNFORTUMATE EVENTS (PG) Dig ★ (100 400) 705 1000

CLOSER (R) - ID REO'D DIG 120 420 707 20 1005 FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX (PG-13) DIG (1250 405) 700 1010

SPANGLISH (PG-13) DIG ★ (1220 340) 700 1010 OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG-13) DIG ★ (1235 135 335 435) BLADE: TRINITY (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1245 345) 710 1015 NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) DIG (1245 345) 710 1015 NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) DIG (125 425) 725 1020 SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (PG) DIG (1210 235 500) POLAR EXPRESS (G) DIG (1200 230 510) 750 1025 CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS (PG) DIG (110 355) 650 950 RAY (PG-13) DIG

Now Hiring-Apply at Theatre

(VILLE CENTER STADIUM 13

MEET THE FOCKERS (PG-13) (1230 100 300 1030 PHANTOM OF THE OPERA (PG-13) (1213 300) 700 1015 FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX (PG-13) (1215 330) 700 1015 FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX (PG-13) (115 415) 720 1010 LEMONY SNICKET'S SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS (PG) * (1200 245 530) 810 1050 CEAN'S TWELVE (PG-13) (10 310 410) 645 745 950 OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG-13) (10 310 410) 645 745 950 BLADE: TRINITY (RI - ID REQ'D (1245 345) 705 1020 CLOSER (RI - ID REQ'D (1245 345) 765 1020 FINDING NEVERLAND (PG) (1220 320) 650 920 FINDING NEVERLAND (PG) (1240 350) 655 1005 NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) (1240 350) 655 1005 SIDEWAYS (RI - DI REQ'D (125 435) 730 1040 (125 530) 655 1025 (125 530) 730 1040 (125 530) 730 1040 (125 530) 730 1040 (125 530) 730 1040 (125 530) 730 1040 (125 530)

MEET THE FOCKERS (PG-13) DIG * (Stadium) (1120 1210 100 220 300 400 500) 630 700 750 920 1000 1030 FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX (PG-13) DIG (Stadium) (1110 200 440) 725 1010

1016

LEMONY SNICKET'S SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS (PG) Ing
★ (Stadium) (1105 1230 150 350 430) 625 710 900 945

SPÂNGLISH (PG-13) DIG ★ (Stadium) (1215 110 330 410) 640 740 950

NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) DIG (Stadium)
SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (PG) DIG (Stadium)
POLAR EXPRESS (G) DIG (Stadium)
THE INCREDIBLES (PG) DIG (Stadium)

40 215 445) 715 955 (1220 325) 620 910 (1150 240 510) (1115 155 435) 655 (1205 320) 635 925 915

BETHESDA 10 7272 Wisconsin Avenue 800-FANDANGO 569

MEET THE FOCKERS (PG-13) DIG ★ (1220 1250 345 415) 710 740 950

LEMONY SNICKET'S SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS (PG) DIG (100 400) 700 940 SPANGLISH (PG-13) DIG (1210 330) 640 945 FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX (PG-13) DIG (1235 410) 175 1010 HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS (PG-13) DIG (1230 405) 725 1025 OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG-13) DIG (1240 340) 650 720 955 1020 NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) DIG (1240 340) 650 720 955 1020 NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) DIG (1250 320) 630 1000 POLAR EXPRESS (G) DIG (1245 420)

XX247

Now Hiring-Apply at Theatre

JOUSETT SERVICE

Jousett. pcragent

Specializin



DIRECT: 202-387-0659 12501 Prosperity Dr., #160, Silver Spring, MD 20904



FOSTER PARENTS, MENTORS NEEDED

Become a treatment foster parent or mentor and help lange the life of a youth today! Training classes begin February 2005. Stipend available. Call 202-544-2906 x102 for foster parenting or 1-866-932-9708 for mentoring.

www.pressleyridge.org

Now that

there's a choice,

would you

choose?

traight Teeth, No Braces

Introducing The Latest Technology In Comprehensive Dental & Orthodontic Care

Carruthers REALTORS®

- Dental Check-Ups Crowns & Bridges
- •Root Canal Therapy •Oral Surgery
- smetic Dentistry
- Orthodontics igital Computerized X-Rays
- Intra-Oral Camera/Video Imaging
 Air Abrasion (No More Needles)
 EVENING HOURS BY APPOINTMENT

All In One Facility

Jousett.

Service @Prudential

2 blocks away from Farragut North and Farragut West Metro

Free Orthodontic Consultation Free Implant Consultation

K Street Dental & Orthodontic Group

Dr. A. Shouhayib & Associates Street Dental 1990 K Street NW. Suite 15-A

308 Main Street
Gaithersburg, MD 20878 301.977.9787

202.775.0167



Serving Breakfast and Dinner All Day

Private Dining Room

-Thu. 11-3AM 2815 M Street, NW Georgetown 10-3AM (202) 338-5380

Italian Restaurant

Now accepting Reservations Join us for our infamous 4 course dinner for 2

Seatings @ 5pm, \$75.00 per couple • 7pm & 9pm, \$100* per couple *includes admission into lounge for Entertainment, Party Favors and Midnight Champagne Toast and 1am Continental Breakfast

6124 Franconia Rd, Alex. Va. 703-922-6222



Live Music with DON CHAPMAN

\$10 cover for lounge Entertainment, Party Favors and Midnight Champagne Toast and 1am Continental Breakfast







Blair Mansion Inn Silver Spring, Maryland

New Year's Eve Gala

Mystery In Mo'Town I & II Gift Certificates Available Fri, Sat & Sun • Free Parking **RESV/Info:**

(301) 588-6646 www.blairmansion.com

2005

AT SAKI ASIAN GRILLE

Christmas Fue & Day Featuring our **Iron Chef's Stations** 7:00 PM - 10:30 PM

> Open Bar 7:00 PM - 11:30 PM

Champagne Toast at Midnight!

Tickets are \$75 each or \$140 per couple in advance



2477 18th Street Washington DC 202.232.5005 www.sakidc.com info@sakidc.com

What's new with the rents?

Saturdays



The Washington Post

28 | EXPRESS | 12.23.2004 | THURSDAY

WeekendPass

66 Bite-Sized

RECENTLY REVIEWED IN THE WASHINGTON POST



The succulent Zarzuela Mediterraneo dish at Sol de Espana on Rockville Pike.

SOL DE ESPAÑA

(838-C Rockville Pike, Rockville: 240-314-0202) — Although it may be harder to get in to this Andalusian snuggery on the weekends, it's worth it, both for owner Joaquin Serrano's cheerful presence and for his delicate timing on the shellfish. Then you can go wild for specials such as grilled fresh baby sardines or steamed baby scallops in the shell; sauteed shrimp; mero (grouper) and mixed shellfish in green sauce; fried calamari or the well-timed and substantial paellas (seafood, meat and seafood or vegetarian) for two. Entrees \$18.95-\$23.95; paellas \$32-\$36.90. EVE ZIBART

MEAZA

(5440 Columbia Pike, Arlington; 703-820-2870) — The best injera around — injeras, actually, one all-teff and the other a still-pungent mix of teff and whole wheat - and for meat-eaters, one of the best Ethiopian kitchens altogether. Try the grilled lamb short ribs "appetizer," a hefty plate in itself; the kitfo deluxe, which pairs the fine steak tartare with lovely house-made yogurt cheese; the change-up spicy chopped red snapper; the collard greens; the stewed chicken doro wot; and the great lamb tripe with tongue. Entrees \$7.99-\$10.99. Not wheelchair accessible. E.Z.

OKINAWA

(1558 Annapolis Rd., Odenton; 410-551-5611) — It's not the most "ethnic" of Korean restaurants, or the broadest of Japanese kitchens either, but this family-friendly spot has much to recommend it, beginning with the complimentary California roll for each

table. Sushi is the most reliable sector of the menu, thanks in part to the fact that chef-owner (and longtime Yokohama chef) Kyung-Yul Kim is behind the glass. The various Korean barbecue dishes are good, if not great, and the multitude of panchan, the little side dishes unusually nice Try the pizza-sized pajun, a sort of crepe/ omelet with oysters, shrimp, meat and blanched scallions. Appetizers \$5.95-\$9.95; entrees \$9.95-\$25.96. E.Z.



Zio's in Gaithersburg dishes out ooev. gooey pizza, made from a family recipe.

(9083 Gaither Rd., Gaithersburg; 301-977-6300) — Inexpensive and filling Italian food is easy to find these days (although it's more and more often franchise fare), but a really good family-recipe pizza may be harder than ever. The pizza dough here, made from Mama Pappano's family recipe, is like the best fresh bread you've had in weeks, and even if the pasta isn't as consistently fine, it will keep the family happy. Pizza, garlic bread, thick wine glasses, salad bar - Zio's is just like the old days, Entrees \$9,25-\$14.25. pizza \$4.75-\$13.75. E.Z.

Eve Zibart's dining reviews appear every Friday in The Washington Post's Weekend section. This week she tests out the Flying Scotsman on Capitol Hill. **CLEAN DOZEN:** While Martha Stewart is away, reality-show contestants will play. "Wickedly Perfect" debuts Jan. 6 and features 12 makeshift Marthas who'll try to out-bake, out-decorate and out-tidy for the title of new domestic diva.



Television

ON TV THIS WEEKEND

A FRIDAY-NIGHT HOLIDAY VERSE

The musical **A CHRISTMAS CAROL** (8 p.m., NBC) had a budget quite huge, and it stars Kelsey Grammer as Ebenezer Scrooge.

If religious programming is the tonic you seek, tune in to **JOAN OF ARCADIA** (8 p.m., CBS) — she talks to God every week!

If a foul-mouthed, drunken Kris Kringle is your idea of groovy, **BAD SANTA** (11 p.m., Starz) is for you. And it's John Ritter's last movie!

Between defrosting the turkey and leaving the pies out, there's **A CHRISTMAS STORY** (24 consecutive hours, beginning 8 p.m., TBS) marathon. "Hey, kid, you'll shoot your eye out!"

So before I get misty, let me offer my greetings and vision: Merry Christmas to



HAPPY GOLDEN DAYS: "Meet Me in St. Louis" injected a wistful note to the holidays.

all! And turn off your darn television!

CHRISTMAS TEARS

MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS (Fri., 10 p.m., TCM) Judy Garland immortalized the sad holiday tune "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" in the 1944 musical.

A BOY AND HIS DOG

CBS celebrates Christmas with MY DOG SKIP (Sat., 8 p.m., CBS) the heart-warming 2000 memoir starring Frankie Muniz. Based on a book by Willie Morris, "Skip" is a very adult tale as seen through the eyes of a child.

THE HILLS ARE ALIVE

I'm a sucker for **THE SOUND OF MUSIC** (Sat., 7 p.m., ABC). Every year. I vow not to get pulled in. Then four hours later, I'm cheering as the nuns rip the distributor cap out of the Nazi's car as the Von Trapps traipse their way across the Alps.

THE NANNY'S DIARY

Fans of Julie Andrews get a double helping this weekend. She also stars in the 1964 musical MARY POPPINS (Sun., 8 p.m., Disney) co-starring Dick Van Dyke as Bert the chimney sweep with one of the fakest Cockney accents ever captured on film.

WE JUST WORK HERE

THE OFFICE SPECIAL (Sat., 8 p.m., BBC America) This hour-long film catches up with the characters of the brilliantly accurate depiction of white-collar drudgery and managerial delusions.

BUT HOW LONG IS IT?

Jon Stewart offers a glib retrospective on 2004 on THE DAILY SHOW WITH JON STEWART PRESENTS THE FIVE MOST IMPORTANT HALF-HOURS OF TELEVISION EVER (Sun., 9 p.m., Comedy Central). KEVIN MCDONOUGH (UNITED FEATURE SYNDICATE)



WE QUIT: The "Office" staff wraps up.

12.23.04	6:00 PM	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
WRC 4	News ©		NBC Nightly News	Access Hollywood	Joey 🕦 🚾	Will & Grace ()	Will & Grace () CC		(9:59) ER "Makemba	" () CC	News CC	The Tonight Show
WTTG 5	The Simpsons ()		Friends () CC	Seinfeld () ©	The O.C. () CC	•	The O.C. "The Cour	ntdown" 🕦 🚾	News		Friends () CC	Drew Carey
✓ WJLA 7	News ©	ABC Wld News	Wheel of Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	*** "The Santa (Clause" (1994) Tim Al	len, Judge Reinhold.	CC	PrimeTime Live ©		News ©	(:35) Nightline
WUSA 9	News ©	CBS News	USA Tonight	Ent. Tonight	NCIS "See No Evil"		CSI: Crime Scene		Without a Trace "L	ife Rules" 🚾	News ©	(:35) Late Show
WDCA 20	Girlfriends ©	Girlfriends ©	Malcolm-Mid.	Malcolm-Mid.	WWE SmackDown	1! Scheduled: Underta	ker takes on Heidenrei	ich. (N) ©	That '70s Show	That '70s Show	Every-Raymond	Dharma & Greg
WMPT 22	The NewsHour Wit	h Jim Lehrer (N)	Business Rpt.	Business Conn.	Ask This Old		Face: Jesus in Art		Face: Jesus in Art	CC	Duttons Holiday Li	ve
S WETA 26	BBC World News	Business Rpt.	The NewsHour Wit	th Jim Lehrer (N)	Icons Sculpting of M		Globe Trekker "Ulti		Marvin Hamlisch's		Charlie Rose (N) ()	[CC]
WHUT 32	U.S. Navy Band Ho	oliday Concert	BBC World News	Money Wise ©	On Africa		10.000		BBC World News	Tavis Smiley ()	Charlie Rose (N) ()	
WBDC 50	The Parkers ()	Steve Harvey	The Parkers ()	Steve Harvey	** "Crazy/Beauti	ful" (2001) Kirsten Du	ınst, Jay Hernandez. 🕥	CC	Will & Grace ∩	Just Shoot Me ()	,	Blind Date (N) ()
A&E	City Confidential	:C]	American Justice	•	Cold Case Files ©	·			The First 48 CC	•	Crossing Jordan "C	ruel & Unusual"
Animal	The Crocodile Hun		Most Extreme: Jun	npers CC	Planet's Funniest A		Pet Star		Animal Cops Detro	oit ©	Planet's Funniest A	nimals ©
BET	106 & Park: BET's 1		I moot Extromo. Cum	BET Style	The Parkers ()	Girlfriends ©	Soul Food () ©		Club Comic View		BET Nightly News	
Bravo	(5:00) ★★★ "Pacifi	<u> </u>	The West Wing ()		Inside the Actors S			nowdown Winners fro		nnete CC	The West Wing () (•
Comedy		`		Klein, Heather Grahar			er's Day Off" (1986, C			iipotoi 🗀	** "Orange Count	
Court	NYPD Blue "The La		Cops () CC	Cops () CC	The Investigators		Forensic Files		The Investigators	"Tangled Weh"	Hollywood Justice	
	Monster Nation ©	ast Nouna Op 17	No Opportunity W		No Opportunity Wa		Tiger Shark Attack		Great White Shark	•	No Opportunity Wa	_
	Chicago Hope "Gui	a With the Wind"			Resident Life ©	usteu (IV)	Resident Life ©	k. Deyona i eai	Berman & Berman		- ''	steu
DISCH	Even Stevens	Lizzie McGuire	Trauma: Life in the	That's So Raven		Chuistass 🗺	Resident Life @	That's So Raven	Lizzie McGuire		Resident Life © Even Stevens	Boy Meets World
Disney			Sister, Sister ()	Dr. 90210	Mickey's Once Upo		e 2004 Nobel Peace Pri		Life Is Great	Sister, Sister () Dr. 90210		Howard Stern
E!	Sexy, Single, and F		E! News (N)									
片X	Fear Factor "Christ						King of the Hill ()			King of the Hill ()	Billionaire: Quest fo	
HGTV	Wknd Warriors	Landscapers	Curb Appeal	House Hunters	Wknd Warriors	Landscapers	Divine Design	Designers'	House Hunters	House Hunters	Painted House ()	Design on a Dime
Family	7th Heaven "Major I		Jack Frost				rrell, Sam Elliott, Clori		Whose Line?	Whose Line?	The 700 Club ©	
History	Saints Preserved!		Christmas Unwrap				ies of the Great Pyram		Modern Marvels (N	<u> </u>	A Very Ermey Chris	
Lifetime	The Golden Girls			nd Me" (2002) Mary Tyle	er Moore, Burt Reynol			ur Heart" (1997) LeAn	n Rimes, Bernadette	,	The Nanny 🚾	The Golden Girls
MTV	Punk'd ()	Punk'd ()	Punk'd Beyoncé.	Punk'd ()	Punk'd ()	Punk'd ()	Punk'd ()	Punk'd ①	Punk'd ()	Punk'd ()	Punk'd ()	Punk'd ()
NICK	Amanda	Rugrats () CC	Jimmy Neutron	Fairly Oddparents	SpongeBob	Rocket Power ()	Full House ©	Full House ©	Fresh Prince	The Cosby Show	Roseanne 🚾	Roseanne 🚾
SCIFI	Stargate SG-1 "As	cension" ∩ 🚾	★★ "Child's Play"	(1988, Horror) Catherin	e Hicks, Chris Saran	don. 🚾	"Puppet Master vs.	. Demonic Toys" (200	4, Horror) Corey Feldi	man. 🚾	★★ "Retro-Puppet	master" (1999)
SPIKE	World's Wildest Po	lice Videos 🚾	CSI: Crime Scene	Investigation ()	CSI: Crime Scene	Investigation ()	*** The Godfa	ather, Part II" (1974, [Orama) Al Pacino. The	saga of the Corleone	crime family continues	s. () CC
TBS	Seinfeld () CC	Seinfeld () CC	Every-Raymond	Every-Raymond	Friends () CC	(:35) Friends ()	(:10) Friends	(:40) Friends	(:10) ★★★ "The Ar	nerican President" (1	995) Michael Douglas.	CC
TLC	Clean Sweep CC	•	In a Fix	•	Noah's Ark: The Tr	ue Story ©	The Mummy Detec	tive (N)	The Mummy Detec	tive (N)	Noah's Ark: The Tri	ue Story 🚾
TNT	Charmed "Look Wh	o's Barking" 🕦	NBA Tip-Off ©		NBA Basketball M	innesota Timberwolve	s at San Antonio Spur	s. (Live) CC		NBA Basketball Mi	ami Heat at Sacramer	to Kings. CC
USA	"12 Days of Christr	nas Eve" (2004, Drama	a) Steven Weber, Moll	y Shannon.	Law & Order: Spec	ial Victims Unit ()	Law & Order: Spec	ial Victims Unit ()	Law & Order: Spec	ial Victims Unit ()	Law & Order: Crimi	nal Intent ©
VHI	InStyle's Greatest	Weddings ()	Awesomely Overse	•	Celebrity Breakups			cking Moments ()			Most Awesome Cel	
≠ TELEM	Corte-Pueblo	Noti-Telemndo	Anita No Te Rajes		La Mujer en el Espe		Gitanas	J	Te Voy a Enseñar a		Noticiero Tel.	Laura
UNIV	Viviana	Noticiero Univ	La Mujer de Mader		Rubí	= 10	Amor Real		Las Delicias de la	•		Noticiero Univ.
								I			<u> </u>	
ESPN	SportsCenter Golf: LDA Tour			h Bowl Cincinnati vs.		Worth, Texas. (Live) 🚾		<u>, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , </u>		n Las Vegas Bowl UC	, , , , ,	,
ESPN2 CSN	I, Max (N)	NFL Live © SportsNite ©	SpotLIGHT	Richmond at Pittsburg Football Thurs.		American at Marylan		Providence at Memph	SportsNite (Live)	<u> </u>	SportsCenter (Live) Football Thurs.	Best-Sports
			Anderson Cooper 3						`		Lou Dobbs Tonight	Zoot Oponto
CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight		The Fox Report Wi		Paula Zahn Now ©		Larry King Live ©		NewsNight With A		The O'Reilly Factor	
FNC MSNBC	Special Report (Live The Abrams Report			tii Sheparu Shiitii	The O'Reilly Facto Countdown With K		Hannity & Colmes Deborah Norville T		Scarborough Coun		Hardball ©	<u> </u>
			Hardball (Live) CC									
AMC		78, Comedy) Burt Reyn					Comedy) Burt Reynolds			the Bandit II" (1980, C		
TCM		Round Table" (1953)				s Carol" (1938) Regin				(1941, Comedy) Monty		The Bishop's Wife
HBO		er" (2002, Drama) Alis			Inside the NFL ()			n" (1988, Comedy-Dra			Real Sex Xtra	Real Sex Xtra
MAX		/s II" (2003) Martin La					Willis, Jeremy Irons.			ith Tad Hamilton!" (2		Lessons in Love
SHOW	` '	oes Down" (2002) Kier				lonk" (2003) Chow Yur		Alfie: SHO Me		Job" (2003) Mark Wah		
ТМС		(:25) ★★★ "The Fro					na) Gene Hackman. 🕦		1, ,	Romance" (1981, Co	medy) Albert Brooks.	
	T/5.00\ (()	Iscan Sun" (2003)	+ + "Days of Thun	der" (1000 Drama) Tom	Cruise. () 'PG-13'	C	★★★ "The Missing	" (2003, Western) Tom	my Lee Jones Cate B	lanchett () 'R' [CC]		(:20) BASEketball
STARZ!	*** "Chicago" (2						Susan Sarandon. O 'F	, , , ,	, ' 	Troopers 2: Hero of t		, ,

express classifieds

JOBS

RENTALS

STUFF

WHEELS

 HOUSES AND MUCH MORE...

TO PLACE A HELP WANTED AD CALL 202-334-4100 • ALL OTHER CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING CALL 202-334-6200

JORS

ACCOUNTANT-DPM (TEAM LEADER)

U.S. DEPT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

OS/ASAM/PSC/Financial Management Service/ Division of Payment (DPM)

DPM is seeking an innovative team player willing to work in an energetic results-oriented environment.

Two positions at GS-14 \$85,210.00 to \$110,775.00 Ann.#HHS-PSC-2005-0024 CLOSING DATE 1/4/2005

For the full announcement, access the HHS

https://iobs.auickhire.com/scripts/hhs.exe

ACTIVIST

Get Heated! Organize our communities to turn up the heat against political cold shoulders on environmental is sues. Great for students on break! FT/PT \$79/ day + Bonus. 202-895-0420, x113. Clean Water Action FOF

Admin/Clerical

Earn up to \$12-\$48/hr

Full benefits, paid training. Local area positions. Call 800-320-9353 x 2427.

AUTOMOTIVE

MANAGER WANTED

For Japanese Brand motorcycle dealership. Excelent pay + commission and benefits. Located in Manassas. Call Tom 703-631-3750

Beauty

New salon. Forestville area. Stylists & booth renters. 301-568-5200

Beauty

Salon Acqua Looking for Professional Hair Stylists, and massage room for rent. Located in Balston metro. Call 703-338-5416 or email makeup2you 301@yahoo.com.

BEAUTY/SPA

Modern Day Spa
Seeking experienced MT, AE, Hairstylists, Guest
Services. Must be interested in serving the client
and working as a team. FT, PT, weekends/evenings
required. Send resume tracik@moderndayspa.com

Construction

Superintendent

For NOVA scattered lot homebuilder. 5 years min. experience required. Salary/Bonus/Auto Allowance/Benefits. Fax resume to 703-361-2968.

ACCOUNTING MANAGER

Auto dealership seeks FT Acct'g prof to manage daily acct'g & financial reporting. Must have min 7 yrs exp w/ RR program. Comp sal & benes. Fax res to: 301-220-1972.

HOTEL VALET ATTENDANTS

All shifts avail. Good driving record req'd. Apply in person: JW Marriott, Valet Dept., person: JW Marriott, valet 1 1331 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, WDC 20004.

REALITY/HAIR STYLISTS

BEAUTY/HAIR STYLISTS
Lic'd. FT/PT positions for our Ashburn, Manassas, & Dulles, VA locations. High hourly rate + commiss. Med., dental, paid holidays, & vac. \$200 Sign-on Bonus! Advanced paid education. Flex. sched., eves. & wkends. Manager's position also available. 703-869-3472

DRIVER/LIMO CDI

Wknds/eves. \$14-20/hr. Apply in person w/record: 6314-G Gravel Av, Alex, Va. 22310; Call **703** 6314-G G 922-7600

Exp'd Finisher for point-up & repair. Top pay for quality worker. 301-752-0413.

Fitness Center Attendant

Responisible and outgoing individual wanted for corporate fitness center in DC. Part time evening hours available. If interested call Don at 202-739-6905

Interior Decorator:Unique opportunity to grow with business. Commission based. Decor & You. Fax: 301 942-3747; birons@decorandyou.com

MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST

Great opportunity to join our prestigious cardiovas-cular practice with offices in DC & Maryland. Recep-tionist must have recent medical scheduling experi-ence, excellent customer service skills & ability to multi-task. Spanish speaking a +. Competitive pay & benefits. Fax cover letter & resume to Office Manager at 301-805-4233.

PLUMBING—Large plumbing co. NEEDS experienced licensed MECHANICS for their Plumbing Service Division. Top wages & benes - too many to list. If interested call Mike at 202-829-8510 ext. 1060. EOE.

VOCATIONAL SERVICES DIRECTOR

Private non-profit agency in Rockville, Md. seeks dynamic individual to serve as Director of Vocational Services for adults with autism. Must have strong programatic skills in supported employment for persons with disabilities. Candidate must possess Bachelors Degree in Psychology with 10 years experience or Masters Degree in Psychology with 5 years experience. Fax resume to: Mr. Allen 301-762-5230 EOE.

ADVERTISING



ZONE ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVE

If you are an energetic, motivated, enthusiastic sales professional with the ability to build rapport with clients and close sales-The Washington Post may have an opportunity for you. Our Community Advertising Sales Unit is seeking a Zone Advertising Representative to market zone products in a Maryland, DC or Virginia territory. Reliable transportation is needed for this

Qualified applicants will possess:

- 1-2 years proven sales experience in an incentive based sales environment;
 Ability to develop a client base through cold calling;
 Experience in an outbound telemarketing environment;

- Excellent verbal, written, and presentation skills;
 Intermediate computer proficiency working with MS Word and Excel;

If you are interested in building a career in sales and you meet the above requirements, please forward your resume and cover letter with salary requirements to:

The Washington Post

1150 15th Street, NW Washington, DC 20071 Fax (202) 912-3677 ntsearch@washpost.com Attn: HR/ZAR/BN

We are committed to diversity in the workplace and promote a drug-free work environ

MARKETING— Costume Character. Hourly + commission. Liberty Tax Service. 202-397-7829

Medical Assistant

Medical Assistant FT & PT. Medical Receptionist w/exp. for ob/gyn practice. Must be bilingual - Spanish. Call 703 448-5522; fax 703 448-5524.

PLUMBER Service plumber needed, 2nd shift, good pay, good benefits. Northern VA area. Call 703-441-9699 Mon-day - Friday 7am-5pm.

PLUMBERS & REFRIGERATION TECHS
5-10 yrs exper. req'd. Excellent pay. FAX resume: 202-583-3783

Printing— DC print shop near metro center is seeking experienced Pressman for Ryobi 3302 and AB Dick 9810 presses. Fax resume to 301-528-9226.

PSYCHOLOGIST ASST

To train & monitor staff on behavior management plans for persons w/autism. P/T, flex. eve. & weekend hours. \$20/hr. MA in Psych & exper. in behavior modification required. Fax resume to: Dr. Smith, 301-926-9384. EOE.

SECURITY GUARDS

Secure Solutions now hiring for security managers & FT/PT security officers in the Alexandria & PG County areas. Interested applicants may call 877-571-9977 x1004.

Warehse/Immed Openings Stock Clerks & Loaders. Will train right person. time reg. fee. Labor Jobs Now: 202-291-5627 www.dclaborjobsnow.com

BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

A Coke/M&M Route-Must Sell Great locs - Earn BIG \$\$! \$0 Dwn/fin. 1-800-367-6709 x4321

STUFF

ALL HOLIDAY SALE

Before you look anywhere else for your computer needs this holiday check out Practical Computer. Top rated 4 yrs. in a row by Checkbook Magazine. Used P3's from \$99, Laptops from \$199, new PC's from \$399. Monitors, printers & more. Serving the area for your 15 yer.

area for over 15 yrs.
Ask us about trading in your old PC. Mon-Fri., 10-7., Sat. 10-5. 703-321-3003.

BD \$150/Queen double pillowtop set.New/plastic Can del 301-399-7870

BDRM: \$555. Cherry 6pc Set. in orig boxes. Can dlvr. 301-343-8630

BED-\$255—King 3pc p/t set. **NEW** in plastic+warr.-Can del 301-399-7870

BED—Mattress set sale, large selection, all sizes in plastic, \$80-\$280/set. Make offer. Credit cards accepted. Warranty. Delivery available. Call A.J. 301-674-2843

Cherry DR Set. 8 Chs. ped. tbl. Lghtd china cab New in boxes.\$1550. 240-372-6691 /c. 703-593-7656

COUCH-Loveseat, chair leather! \$1150.New in boxes! 240-372-6691

PETS

ADOPT A CAT/KITTEN—Vet checked. Call Feline Foundation. 703-920-8665. www.ffgw.org.

DOG BOARDING—Going away for the Holidays? K-9 KAMP will pick up and drop off your dog. Obed and Prot tr also avail.(240) 876-2208

German Shepherd—12-wk old blk/tan female puppy. Current shots. \$300 (240) 876-2208.

LABRADOR purebreds—AKC,5 wks old,due claws, shots,CHAMPION FIELD TRIAL BLOODLINE \$500 BY APPOINTMENT 2405382220

MIXED BREED PUPS — SHOTS, \$200 & UP 540-955-1841, 540-247-9274.

SIAMESE - APPLEHEADS—TRADITIONAL CFA reg. Blue/Seal Points First shots health guar. \$400 up call 131-821-4555

RENTALS

AAFB & PG CO.—1,2 & 3BR. \$1000-up. Bad credit no problem. 100% guar. approval. 301-736-2810

ABLE TO AFFORD-Yet Got Denied? Don't despair! Places MD/E Call: **The Right Place 888-813-5689**

Act-Fast WHY RENT when you can Own! Kiss your Landlord Goodbye! Lg Brk Col., 3Br, 2 Fb, Fin Bsmt, nice yard. Shopping/Buses. \$1350 & Up. Your Job is your Credit!... No Hassles. Call 1-800-716-3409 ID# 3922 or Visit: www.Buy.Sell4.com. RE/MAX ALLEGIANCE

ALEX/2BR/2BA/3 LVL—w/d, fpl. \$1350/MO.
703-477-7101

ALEX—2BR, pvt. entr, fully equip w/dbl. decker frig, w/d. \$900 incl. utils. 703-927-4848; 703-801-1374

ALEX/ESSEX HOUSE SQUARE—2BR, 2BA garden style condo, walk in clst, frpl, walk to Metro, \$1300/mo+deposit.703-867-2893

Alex/King and Quaker \$2200 Sunny, high ceilings, 2 level,designer furnished 2/2.5, pking, w/d, fireplace, just bring your tooth-brush! 1-305-401-6100

ALEX/KING ST. METRO—New wlk-out studio w/ deck & wooded view. Brand new kit., crpt, W/D. Utils incl. + direct TV.\$850 MUST SEE! 703-927-6545

ALEX/OLD TOWN 703-626-3650 Studio Gym membership, roof top deck w/river & city views, \$825 uts incl. avail immed. Metro.

Alexandria \$2145 LUXURY CONDO RENTAL Gorgeous 2BR, 2BA in sought after Carlyle Towers. Gym, pool, parking, HWF, Metro. 703-442-8416,

Gym, pool, parкเกร scindc@yahoo.com

ARL/CLARENDON—4 Blocks Metro! Renov 5BR/ 3BA Hse CAC, Decks, Parking \$3450+Utils 703-558-0058 www.JuergenHaber.com

ARL N— 1 & 2 BR. From \$900 to \$1200 incl utils. Walk to Metro, shppg, 2 miles to Key Bridge. Cats welcome. Call 703-527-1991 ARL N—Great lower level 1BR w/pvt entr, brand new crpt & paint. Owner will consider pets. Avl. immed. \$950/mo. incls. utl. Call Bill, 703-314-6674.

ARL/Rosslyn/River PI—Very nice 1BR, decorator furn, 2 CATV, 2 phone, concierge. Mrkt, metro, short/long. Rsrv prkg. \$1595. 703-759-9283

ARL S - 395/Glebe, 2BR,2ba, min to Pent, Pent. City & Ballston, \$1800 gar prkg, 6-8 mó lease **703-521-0289**

Arlington/Courthouse—SUNNY 1 BR in Colonial Village. 6mo./1yr lease \$1075/mo. Kevin (703)508-8710, KCJvishnu@aol.com

BETHESDA/LAKESIDE TERRACE \$1050 Great Opportunity for 1BR apt nr Montg. Mall, pool, tennis, nr transp & shops. Call Peter to see 301-493-4149 Fairfax Rity 301-881-9800

\$2150 Clean, contemp, 3br, (+den), TH, w/1 car gar. on Mist Haven. Less than 1/2 mi to Grovenor Metro. Sorry no pets, NS. CASAS 301-717-9114

CAMP SPRINGS—2 houses avl 1/1/05, 3br/2.5ba & 3br/1ba, either one -\$1600/mo + util, call 301-449-0390 for more information

CAP HGTS—2BR, renov, spac., metro access, \$945 240-375-1436

CAP HILL/PENN QUARTER—/400 Mass Ave.— 1 BR in New Lux Bldg. \$1700/mo. Pkg 202-360-0390

Capitol Hill SW— Beautiful 3 Ivl 3 BR, 2 BA TH, W/D, CAC, new appls, security systm. Walk to major Federal office bldg, mall & nr SW Metro. \$1900. Call for appt 202-863-9571

CENTREVILLE/FAIR LAKES
All new inside 4 lvl end unit TH w/loft & garage.
3MBR, 3BA; \$1800/mo. Fireplace, gated community,
swim pool, walk to bus & shops, 703-998-6862

Chevy Chase Large 3Br. Near Metro
3BR, 2B available immed. 2 park & Util incl!! Amazing views, newly renovated, walking distance to metro & shopping. Open Sat. & Sun. inquiries 301-275-7400

CRYSTAL CITY Effcy 1 & 2BR APTS—All utils incl w/Cable TV, nr Metro, shops & rests. Free prkg. Short term lease - min 3 months. Effcy Furn \$950; Furn 1BR Unfurn \$1200; Furn \$1300; 2BR Unfurn \$1300; Furn \$1400. 703-979-3772.

CAP HTS/4806 Leroy Gorham—4BR, 2.5 ba, lg kit, w/w, driveway. \$1500 Delwin Rity, 301-608-3703 ext 105

Dupont/Adams Morgan HURRY!

HURRY!

2 beautiful and large apts in a renovated TH, lots of light, secluded garden, all units contain fireplaces, wd, and dw, steps to metro, pets possible, 2 BR \$1,800 or 3 BR 2.5 BA \$2,200 for info call 202 246 7192.

DWNTWN/NW/Historic/Ledroit Park—Urban Living. Wik of Metro, Inflused w/U Street vibe. Two 1-BR. Newly renov'd lux apts. Grt price. Avl immed. Don't wait. Call now for appt. 301-982-2988

Fair Oaks/Fairfax—Nice, spac. 3 BR/2 BA, extra loft, skylight, storage rm, 2 FP, golf view, mins to Mall, 166/Rt50. \$1500 /mon. 703-395-0614 OR

Fairfax—Brand New 1 BR, W/D, Granite Counters, Intercom, Pool, Metro, Near GMU, shops, Assigned Parking Quiet Area \$1150 703-608-0883

FORESTVILLE—2BR apts w/ spacious floorplans. Winter Sale!. From \$799 including all utilities. Awesome Location only mins from Beltway/495 & DC. 301-735-0260. EHO

GALLUDET UNIV VIC—Clean 2BR, new cpt. \$800/mo+sec. + utils. Sec. 8 welcome. 202 903-6271

GERMANTOWN—TH, 3BR, 1½BA, W/D, \$1,200/mo., \$1,200 sec dep. + utils. No pets. For appt. Credit approval req'd (\$15). 410-299-1275

GLOVER PARK—1BR facing Park. great storage. new appliances. heat incl. \$1200/mo. 202-302-2245

LANDOVER—2BR Apts. 1 Month Free if you move by 1/15 (SRA). w-w carpet, spacious floorplans, excellent location. Don't Wait.....Call Now... 301-927-3721. EOE

LANDOVER—2BR Apts. 1 Month Free if you move by 1/15 (SRA). w-w carpet, spacious floorplans, excellent location. Don't Wait.....Call Now... 301-927-3721. EOE

BUILDER MODEL SFH
JANET ROSE CT. CALL TONY 703-798-4527, OWNER REALTOR

N. Old Town Alexandria \$2000
Convenient commute
2 blk to Pkwy 1/2m to mtro 2 br 1 bth Colni TH ex cdn
wdn firs Frnch drs to deck/grdn new ktn SS aplncs
gas cook/ht W/. CenAC, utl nt incl. avl Jan15
703-683-2539

NE/NEW 2BR AVL IMMED—cac+utils. Sect 8 ok. NS. 703-307-0342

OXON HILL—Very Ige. 2BR apt. w/balcony, next to school & rec. ctr. CAC, w/d in each bldg. 1 mi. inside Beltway, \$820/mo. inc. water/gas. Avl. immed. 703-222-2562

PALMER PARK—4BR 1BA 1 IVI, renov, sec 8 ok. \$1395. 240-375-1436

RIVERDALE, MD—50% OFF 1st MONTHS RENT on select 18Rs. Spacious, oversized floorplans. Metro-Bus stop at front door. Don't Wait....Call Now!... 301-779-6663. EHO

ROCKV/Falls Grove \$3950 Brand new SFH for immed occup, with over 4000 s.f. & lots of great options. 12 mo. minimum. RE/MAX Realty Svcs 301-910-5005

SE/CONGRESS HGTS/301 PARKLAND PL—1BR, all new applncs/carpet, sec. 8 welcome, \$650/mo. Call 202-258-1700/lv msg.

SE—Recently updated one, two, & three bedrooms Call 301-622-9425

SILVER SPRING

Affordable Luxury in Montgomery County!

2BR for \$1000

2BR for \$1000
Beautiful Wooded Setting!
Walk to Stores!
Metrobus at community!
Secure and Elevator Bldg!
Laundry on Every Floor!!
Bring Ad for
\$100/mo off for 1 year and
No Application Fee!

Call 301-434-8727 SOUTHERN MD/ST MARY'S CO/Lexington Park Gorgeous 182BR apts, spacious floorplans, winter specials. Move by 12/31/04 & get 1 Month FREE.No sec dep. 301-737-5300. EHO

SPRINGFIELD CROSSING

APARTMENTS
LEASE NOW AND GET
\$1,000 SHOPPING SPREE OR
1 MONTH FREE
if you move in by January.
866-880-1968

KSI Management

FHO

Classifieds

RENTALS

SE/FAIRFAX VILLAGE

2BR,1BA, wash/dry, dishwsh wall to wall crpt secure bldg \$900/mo +uts Av 1/1 202-582-7009

SIL SPG/Longmeade—Huge beaut TH w/ deck, wlkout bsmt to patio, 3-4BR, \$1850. Section 8 ok. Call 301-438-8202

SPGFLD—4BR, 2½BA lux apt, new kit/BA. \$1600. 703-307-0342

SUITLAND—Renov 1BR, metro access, \$645+elec. 240-375-1436

TAKOMA PARK

4 BR,2 BA, CAC, new paint \$1395. 410-626-7308

TRACY'S LANDING—1BR, 1BA on pvt farm, recently remod, everything new, conven to Wash or Annapolis, \$1200/mo+uts. 410-867-6886

ROOMMATES

LAUREL—Hse. to shr. Two rooms avail, shr. ba \$425/\$450. For details call 301-498-3813

STERLING—Shr 2BR, 3FBA hse nr airport & shopping cntr. N/S \$550-\$750 utls incld.(will lower rent for maid services) 703-627-5327

CONDOS FOR SALE

ARL N.—Condos from \$260,000, compl renov 703-475-8152. Saab Realtv

www.StickWithNick.com

ARLN M	ETRO
HAPPY HOLIDAYS	
'Tis The Season For Great Deals	3

Fix-up effcy 2 blks metro	\$130,000
Effcy w/DC view & pkg	
Larger effcy rented thru May	
Corner 1BR w/balc, DC view	
Super renov 1BR w/pkg	
Giant 1BR 1 blk VA Sq Metro	
Delux effcy 1 blk Ballston metro	\$285,000

Marion Cloud 703-314-7033 RE/MAX ALLEGIANCE

BETHESDA/Promenada

BETHESDA/Promenada
Lge sought after 1BR apt
overlooking pool. All the amenities of this premier
high-rise in Bethesda. Garage, pools, tennis, health
club & more. Call Peter to see 301-493-4149,
Fairfax Rity 301-881-9800

BETHESDA/Promenade \$270,000 Lge 981sqft desireable 1BR apt in fabulous Prome-nade with all the amenities. Pools, health club, tennis, garage & more. Call Peter to see 301-493-4149 Fairfax Rlty 301-881-9800

HOUSES FOR SALE

AAFB/PGCo: Buy Great Homes w/no Money down. Hurry! Beauty tg. Brick Front Col., 5/3/2, gar, Eat-in-Kit, Fin Bsmt, \$290-\$650s. Affordable 7/H & Condos. Move-up to one of my Listings & I'll Buy yours. 1-888-300-8048, ID# 2012 or Visit: www.HomeShop-pinGoogle.com. RE/MAX ALLEGIANCE

ACT FAST: Bargain/Distress Homes, make U \$\$\$\$! Hud/Va/Bank/Fixer-Uppers, Pre-Foreclosures. \$250's-\$1 Million. Free List, Call 1-800-716-3409 ID# 3012 or visit: www.Buy.Sell4.com. RE/MAX ALLEGIANCE

ACT FAST — SELL YOUR HOUSE TODAY. Any price, any condition. Call 877-3-BUYERS (289377)

ACT NOW!! Behind in your Mortgage Payment? Stop your Foreclosure/Save your Credit!! We buy Houses! CASH OFFERS in 24hrs! CASH IN HAND 7-13 Days! Guaranteed! Call now! 24hrs -1-800-716-3409 ID# 2032. Visit: UglyHomesForCash.com. RE/MAX ALLEGIANCE

ACT NOW!! Sell your Home Fast CASH No Hassles. I Buy Houses, Any Condition, CASH OFFER 24hrs. FREE CMA over the phone, Call 1-800-716-3409, ID# 4013 or Visit: www.MarylandhomesMarketplace.-com. RE/MAX ALLEGIANCE

ADVERTISE YOUR HOME— FREE FSBO Site: You can sell without an Agent. View Homes, List Homes FREE www.FreeListFSBOinfo.com or call 1-800-716-3409. RE/MAX Allegiance.

ALEX/DUKE ST Central Property 703-683-7746 2 units at 1000sf each, office/retail/flex, walk to metro. Call Robert Hayman

ALEX/PICKETT STREET
4000-10000 S.F. 2 loading docks. Vacant.
Call Robert Hayman at:
Central Property 703-683-7746

CASH FOR HOUSE IN 48 HRS—Any cond, price, area, 301-346-4394

Manassas—Sale or rent: Heavy Industrial & contractor lots & truck storage. Stan 7039262103

ASH-Beth-Montg Co: Buy Luxury Homes w/no Money Down. Beauty Brk Front Col, 6/3/2, gar. Great Floor plan, elegant, \$600-\$900's. Selection Lux H/Condos Move-up to one of my listings & I'll Buy Yours. 1-888-300-8048, ID# 3012 or Visit: MarylandHomesMarket

RE/MAX ALLEGIANCE

FT DUP 1542 41st St. S.E.— 2BR, 11/8BA, bsmt, new rf sep DR, exit to back yd fr kit, front porch, access ramp, new ac unit, upgraded elec. Adwd firs thro'out. Susie Moore Associates 301-449-7979

LARGO - 3BR 2BA. Also FIND OUT WHAT YOUR HOME IS WORTH FREE OVER THE NET: WWW.RAYCONTEE.COM

\$3,000

Furnished Office Space
Fully Furnished 8 Offices in Manassas, VA. - 2 Lobby Areas / Conf. Room. / LAN / Phone System.

SILVER SPRING—Home listings by daily e-mail. Dan Krell, Fairfax Realty, Inc. 301-881-9800, x 238. SilverSpringHomeSearch.Com Equal Housing Opportunity

WE BUY HOUSES-ANY PRICE OR COND Do you need to sell? Relocating? Need repairs? Bad tenants? Behind in payments? Facing foreclosure? 100% financed? Divorce? Owe liens?

We buy houses, all cash, no contingencies, no real estate fees. No cost to you for our services.

Brian, Re/Max 2000, 301-996-9695

www.listorbuyhomes.com

WOODBRIDGE/FAIRFAX—(6) new THs, 3BR 2½BA, 2 car gar. Avl 2/1. Owner fin, credit issues, bankrptcy ok. Lets make a deal! 703-660-6752

REAL ESTATE SERVICES

DON'T MISS THE BOAT!! MORTGAGES AVAILABLE!

Less Than Perfect Credit Is OK! 100% Financing! Interest Only!
Pay Off Those Credit Cards! Call Jayme (301) 208-9444

WE DO THE LOANS NO ONE ELSE CAN
Residential/commercial real estate with equity. We
save homes from foreclosure & bankruptcy. We
accept scores below 500, and do unique deals. Call
Robert, 240-314-0399 ext 11.

WHEELS

ACURA—'91 Integra, 4 dr, 5 spd, CD, all pwr, Excellent condition! Md insp. \$1750. 301-262-2974

BUICK '89 SKYLARK—Auto, V6,4 dr, maroon, runs grt, \$750 202-577-7515

HONDA '04 ACCORD EX—14k mi, fully loaded, snrf, lthr., new, \$18,000 240-338-8585.

JEEP—'99 Grand Cherokee Laredo, V8, AWD, 95K mi, CD, hitch, slate, gd cond. \$8300. 703-383-6916

MERCEDES-BENZ '87 560 SL—Auto, 41k mi, Black Pearl, AM/FM, CD, Insp, AC, PW/PDL, PS, \$20000, 301-580-2417

MITSUBISHI '03 Eclipse—Assume monthly payments of \$527, Convertible, 28K, Auto, V-6, CD, Cruise, White, Black Top, Kept under car cover, Warranty in effect, 202-518-7761.

TOYOTA '01 SEQUOIA—SR5 4x4, auto, lthr & more 38K, Xcond \$23,500, **703-644-2144/703-298-5737**

Why go thru the hassle of selling or donating your vehicle to charity- I'll pay you CASH. 301-646-0083



So grab your copy at the news rack, and read the ride away.



recycle.







XX282 3x12

* TRENDS, CULTURE, DISCOVERIES, IDEAS, PEOPLE

Religion

Nativity scenes are marked by societal customs and values

One Wise Man at baby Jesus' side is in full headdress. Instead of gold, frankincense and myrrh, gifts include water, corn and a drum.

The University of Dayton has a collection of 1,200 nativity scenes from 45 countries, and one thing stands out: Creches reveal what's important to a culture. The birth of Jesus is more relevant when wrapped in local customs, costumes and values.

Visions of the Nativity are as different as the places that produced them.

In a Mexican set, Mary and Jesus lie in the sand surrounded by cactus and burnt-orange pottery figures in sombreros. Standing with his back to the others is Satan, with a cow skull on his head and a pitchfork.

The use of Satan comes from



when Spanish conquistadors used the fear of the devil to convert Mayans to Christianity, said Artimus Keiffer, assistant professor of geography at Wittenberg.

NATIVE SON:

This nativity scene, crafted by Mary Toya, an artist from an Indian village in New Mexico, reflects the local costumes, culture and environment.



Creche Culture

In one Pueblo scene, the stable is replaced with an adobe hut, and the manger with a cradleboard, used to carry babies. Bears, lizards, snakes and frogs circle Mary, Joseph and Jesus. The figures are cast in soft earthen hues of brown and tan.

The pottery figurines have strong cultural features, said the Rev. Johann Roten, director of the Marian Library at Dayton.

Robin Margaret Jensen, pro-

fessor of history at Vanderbilt University, said people transfer the nativity scene to their own culture so it makes sense to them.

Churches and prominent people were the first to exhibit nativity scenes. Later, figures resembled people from the area they were made, said the Rev. John Guiliani of Redding, Conn., who has painted nativity scenes.

Scenes from Naples, Italy, fea-

tured fishermen, peasants and merchants surrounding the manger, he said.

A Swiss set shows a snow-capped stable surrounded with fir trees. Felt hats with Alps feathers ride the heads of the figures, who use walking sticks to trudge to the stable through drifts of snow. A stack of firewood hugs the side of the stable.

A French scene features a water well and herds of sheep, which flank homes with orange tile roofs and stone chimneys. Female villagers in long dresses and shawls make their way to the manger.

One set from Nigeria features wooden figures by a stream. Some have umbrellas to protect themselves from the sun. Some woman are carrying stacks of firewood on their heads.

"We quite rightly should want to see nativity scenes in all the different cultures," Jensen said. JAMES HANNAH (AP)

living large?

How do you make the most of your small space — and even smaller budget? Send a photo and description of your decorating or organizational solution, and we might just feature it in "Watch This Space," on Fridays in the Home & Shopping section.

Email with your info to: home@readexpress.com.

Or mail to: Home Editor, Express P.O. Box 17370, Arlington, VA 22216.



XX376 2x4





The

Connecticut Avenue Collection

5520 Connecticut Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20015

'quality home furnishings and decorative accessories'

(202) 243-0133

Open Seven Days a Week

finewine.com



On the net and in the neighborhood

•Wine & gift **delivery** & shipping

10% discount on mixed cases
 ◆Home to the Women's Wine Tasting Clubtm
 ◆Exceptional selection & price in both stores

Cecile s in McLean 703.356.6500 & in MD 301.987.5933

1351 Chain Bridge Rd. The Washingtonian Center at 270 & 370

Michael Franz

Holiday Spirits

Post wine columnist MICHAEL FRANZ was online Wednesday to discuss wine for the holidays and wine in the movie "Sideways" | washingtonpost.com/liveonline

I just saw the movie "Sideways." which besides being a great film, made me want to run out and buy an interesting pinot noir. One of the characters reminded me of someone and I'd like to buy that person a reasonably priced bottle that can be found in D.C. Can you recommend a brand/vintage for under \$25?

Here are the top cheapies that I tasted for Thanksgiving this year (the names you see in parentheses are D.C. wholesalers; you can use these to prod your retailer to order on your behalf):

Parker Station (Central Coast, Calif.) 2003 (\$13, DOPS);

Estancia (Monterey) "Pinnacles" 2001 (\$15, National):

Beaulieu Vineyard (Carneros, Calif.) 2002 (\$11, Washington Wholesale);

Cartlidge and Brown (California) 2002 (\$12, Henry);

Smoking Loon (California) 2003 (\$9, National).

My husband received a bottle of Dom Perignon 1996 as a Christmas gift from his staff. Has he been a very good boss? And should we

drink this now or save it for some future occasion?

Well, he might have been a very good boss, but he might also have just scared the mortal bejezus out of them! In any case, they did give him a very good wine.

My advice on timing: Being mortal creatures, we should, whenever in doubt, drink the thing now! Just the two of you, with a little caviar and some cold raw oysters and some shavings of Reggiano and a nice fire and securely locked doors.

Is the 2004 Beaujolais Nouveau still an appropriate gift for Christmas?

Well, it isn't inappropriate. (How's that for damning with faint praise?) Better to buy Cru Beaujolais from the extraordinary 2003 vintage (just ask your retailer's salespeople to set you up; they will know what I'm talking about), or — better still in my view — one of the affordable pinots.

→ Today on Live Online

NOON: The Entertainment Guide staff at washingtonpost.com discuss the best bets for fun in the area.

The Duplex | Glenn McCoy



Pearls Before Swine | Stephan Pastis







Letters

Leave Jackson Alone

I WISH THE MEDIA would leave Michael Jackson alone and just let the man live. I'm getting tired of people trying to pick on him just because he's had success in his life and career. In my opinion, if these child molestation charges against him are true, then why do people still allow their children to spend time at his Neverland ranch, as mentioned in a story in Monday's Express? What I'd want to say to Michael Jackson is this: I believe in you 100 percent. Keep working to put smiles

on your fans' faces.

-ARLENE THOMAS Washington, D.C.



SPEAK UP: Do you have something to say about events in the news or a story in today's news-

paper? Opinions on D.C. baseball, the national political scene or hostilities in Iraq? Drop us a line at inbox@readexpress.com.

5 Day Forecast for the Washington Area

30°



All forecasts and maps provided by **AccuWe**







High

Normal high ..

Month to date Normal month to date

Year to date

Last year to date

Average humidity

24 hours ending 4 p.m.

Normal year to date

Normal low



30°/22°

45

n nn'

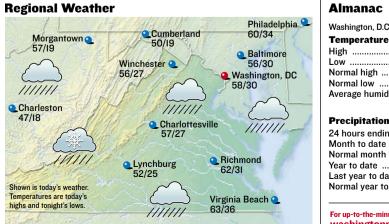
41 60

60.23









washingtonpost.com/weather

Washington, D.C., through 4 p.m. Wed.

Regional Forecast

D.C. Metro: Today, cloudy, windy, mild, drenching rain, perhaps a thunderstorm. High . 58. Wind south 15-30 mph. Tonight, becoming colder. Low

Sun and Moon

Sunrise today7:24 a.m.
Sunset tonight 4:51 p.m.
Moonrise today 2:33 p.m.
Moonset today 4:48 a.m.

First

Full	Last	New
ec 26	Jan 3	Jan IO

National Weather for Thursday, December 23 -10s 0s 40s 50s 70s T-storm

National	Cities		World Cities					
City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Fri. Hi/Lo/W	City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Fri. Hi/Lo/W			
Atlanta	45/24/r	43/22/pc	Amsterdam	49/40/c	43/34/sh			
Boston	52/35/r	42/25/pc	Athens	48/38/r	50/4I/pc			
Chicago	14/-6/sf	4/-7/pc	Berlin	45/39/r	42/32/sh			
Dallas	32/I4/pc	25/16/pc	Buenos Aires	88/68/s	82/59/t			
Denver	12/4/sf	39/22/pc	Calgary	35/27/sf	46/28/c			
Honolulu	80/68/sh	80/70/sh	Dublin	52/37/sh	43/30/sn			
Los Angeles	68/44/s	72/44/s	Geneva	43/38/c	42/39/sh			
Miami	83/67/t	80/67/sh	Moscow	17/7/sf	19/16/sn			
New York City	55/34/r	40/22/pc	Rome	48/41/s	57/45/s			
Orlando	78/54/t	62/48/r	Sydney	84/63/pc	90/66/c			
Seattle	42/32/s	44/38/pc	Tokyo	47/32/pc	45/34/pc			
s-sunny nc-nartly	cloudy c-cloudy	sh-showers t	thunderstorms r-rain	sf-snow flurries	sn-snow i-ice			

People

GENETICS

With That Face, the Role Of Elvis Was an Inevitability

Irish actor **JONATHAN RHYS-MEYERS**, who played the soccer coach in 2002's "Bend It Like Beckham," will



star as Elvis Presley in a four-hour miniseries to air on CBS. The fact-based drama will also star Camryn Manheim

as Presley's mother, Gladys, and Randy Quaid as his manager, Col. Tom Parker, the network said Tuesday. Rose McGowan will play Ann-Margret, the actress who costarred with Presley in the 1964 film "Viva Las Vegas." The miniseries is being made with the participation of the Presley estate. (AP)

VANITY

Actresses Who Gain 30 lbs. For Roles Are Not Impressed

How many actresses would let themselves be seen with a red, runny nose and messy hair in a movie? **TEA LEONI** does in "Spanglish." Leoni says it's



a natural way to look for a woman who has seen her husband walk out after she confesses she had an affair.

"There was no wish to make this look pretty," she told reporters. "I think it really would have taken away from the performance," she said. "And I'm glad to see that the way that I look matches the way that I felt." (AP)



HOLIDAY GIFTS

Small Miracles

Stolen gold and silver discs won by OZZY OSBOURNE's band Black Sabbath were found dumped behind trash cans in London on Wednesday. The discs were reported missing after a burglary at the home of Osbourne's former manager last week. Osbourne and his wife, SHARON (above as Joseph and Mary on MTV), were also victims of a burglary in their home last month. (AP)



Scientists Prove That There Really Is No Such Thing as Bad Publicity

"Access Hollywood" has named its "Top Ten Stars of 2004," with BRITNEY SPEARS in the No. 1 spot. The rankings are based on the number of stories the show aired on each star. Spears — who was married twice, canceled a summer tour because of a knee injury and released a greatest hits album — topped the list with 119 stories. Beyonce is in the No. 2 spot, with 102 stories, followed by Donald Trump, 94 stories; Michael Jackson, 84 stories; Tom Cruise, 72 stories; Jessica Simpson, 69 stories;



Britney knew that if she just kept getting married, her fame would flourish.

and Paris Hilton, 63 stories. "We want to thank these stars for helping to make 2004 the best in 'Access Hollywood' history," Executive Producer Rob Silverstein said in a statement. (AP)

LITIGATION

More Celebrity Persecution

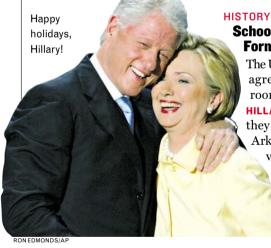
snoop dog has sued a woman and her attorneys for extortion, alleging they demanded \$5 million to keep silent about an alleged assault against her. The lawsuit, filed in Los Angeles Superior Court on Dec. 10, said Snoop Dogg — whose real name is Calvin Broadus — was

not involved in the alleged assault at a performance in 2003. The



lawsuit alleged that the woman and her attorneys threatened to sell details of the alleged assault to a book publisher

and The National Enquirer if Snoop Dogg did not pay \$5 million. (AP)



School Impulse-Buys
Former Clinton Home

The University of Arkansas has agreed to buy the one-bedroom house where BILL and HILLARY CLINTON lived when they worked in Fayetteville, Ark., in the 1970s. The university paid \$249,950 and said it will hold the house until the city or a nonprofit group can purchase it. A museum is not planned.(AP)

nonstopmotion

PC RETROCOM

COMPUTERS & SERVERS

| Computer Warehouse | 7516 Leesburg Pike | 7578 Ritchie Hwy | Glen Burnie, MD | 410-553-6840 |

PCRetro.com Can Supply it All! From an inexpensive system for the kids to Delivering, Equipping & Installing your entire office at bulk rate! Let us be you source for top quality, name brand, IT Equipment

LAPTOPS

<u> </u>	
Pentium 2 Multimedia Laptops 64-128mb 4-6.0GB CD with Adapter	from \$199
Pentium 3 Laptops From 128-256mb 6-10.0GB CD with Adapter	from \$299
HP OMNIBOOK 6000 Cel 650Mhz 128mb 6.0GB CD 56K Nic TFT	\$299
IBM ThinkPad 600x P3 500Mhz 128mb 6.0GB CD 56K TFT	\$399
TOSHIBA Satellite Pro P3 650Mhz 128mb 12.0GB DVD 56K 14.1 TFT	\$449
IBM ThinkPad T20 P3 700Mhz 256mb 10.0GB DVD 56K Nic 14.1	\$449
COMPAQ Armada E500 P3 900Mhz 256mb 10.0GB CD 56K Nic 14.1 TFT	\$549
NEW! COMPAQ EVO P4 2.4Ghz 256mb 60.0GB CD 56K Nic XP PRO	\$959

PCRETRO.COM 5031 Garrett Ave. Beltsville, MD 301-931-6630

On Dec. 23, George Washington resigned as the Army's commanderin-chief and retired to Mt. Vernon, Va.; also, in 1893, the opera "Haensel und Gretel" by Engelbert Humperdinck was first performed, in Germany.

Strip Tees | Edited by Timothy E. Parker

6 Woofer output 10 Cereal choice 14 Fuel for a debate

15 Brand for Bowser 16 Child's building

17 Beth follows it 18 Great thing in China

19 Came down 20 Pseudonymous surname

21 Favorite libation of grandmothers? 24 Chicago political name

26 Sent a message the oldfashioned way

27 Nicknaming sportscaster Chris 29 Column in math

30 Light

31 Cursory inspection 36 Kindergarten

breaks 37 After the deadline

39 Morally reprehensible 40 They might

cause unglamorous hands

42 Gave up, as land

43 "The Farmer in the Dell" syllables 44 Odalisques'

places 45 Word with high, low or user 49 Turn a deaf

(ignore)

ACROSS Mgr.'s helpers

52 Word found on a dipstick

a compliment" 56 "... unto us

is given" (Isaiah) 57 How some shares are

60 Long, narrow shoe size

61 Smelling a rat 62 Designer Schiaparelli

63 Historical periods

Will Smith?

8 Hair problem 9 Good financial

condition

11 Kick back 12 Quick and

13 Worthy of

Dollar Brain"

50 Maps to places one might hear "Bolero"?

55 "I'll take

purchased 59 Highlander

64 Bridge seats

nnwn

1 Not much 2 Fledgling pilot's

5 Rhodes, for one

7 "There oughta he

10 World-weary

attention

22 "The Billion novelist Deighton

23 "Anything

challenge 3 Fast numbers by

4 Word to the wise

6 Off-color

graceful

25 Pennsylvania

40 59 60 61

Dutch 27 Boston or Chicago, e.g. 28 Morales of "My Family" 29 Common sculpture subject

32 Hard to miss 33 Primates seen on home movie

rentals? 34 Before middle sch.

35 Cincinnati's "bovs of summer" 37 Type of

pregame party 38 Busch partner 41 Celebrity groundhog

42 Dealer's deal Own, in Dundee

45 Word with purchase or asking 46 Honey badger

47 Squashed O's 48 Roman holiday 49 Best. Ferber

and Millay 51 Macbeth's burial place

58 It gets into hot

53 Blowgun weapon 54 Prohibitionists

Yesterday's Solution

'C	²L	Ā	M		[#] R	E	A	*p	S		M	"E	12 T	120
H	A	L	0		15 E	T	н	A	N		16 A	L	0	E
E.E.	N	D	0	F	Т	н	E	R	A	19	N	В	0	V
Ä	C	Е		21 L	0	0	М		200	R	0	A	K	8
7	E	R	a R	0	R	s		≈ A	K	1	N			
			A A	R	T		T	A	В	S		S	P	8
0	E L	Z2 L	1	E		Ä	U	R	A		36S	Р	U	1
B	0	1	N	Т	ō	F	N	0	R	E	Т	U	R	1
Ã	В	L	Y		M M	1	E	N		"L	A	D	L	E
e.	Ε	T		H	Е	R	D		90	А	G			
			6	A	L	E		0	A	Р	E	R	Ē	100
91	SI N	S	0	L	E		ST.	0	N	s		ă E	R	E
Ť	1	Р	0	F	Т	Œ.	E	1	c	E	g _B	E	R	0
SE.	L	А	N		早	E	N	S	E		60 A	s	Е	1

Horoscope

By Stella Wilder

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Creativity in love can solve a world of problems - including those you haven't yet experienced or can't foresee.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Now is the time to tell a few secrets — but to the right people. The trick is knowing just what to tell, and what to hold back.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) You can generate a great deal of productivity on vour own. You can be sure that in the long run others will follow in your footsteps.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) You'll want to pick up where you left off tomorrow particularly when you are given the chance to proceed without restrictions or interruptions

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Selfindulgence can only lead to increased hardship. Avoid being too aggressive in your relationships. Pride can be a hazard.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) This is a good day for reveling in past glories — without. of course, aettina lost in your own memories. Forward motion is still a must.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) You'll enjoy an increase in romantic opportunities - but the payoff is not likely to come. You must still be patient.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Caution is advised where business is concerned you make, large or small, affects those around you strongly.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) You don't want to lead anyone astray, so be sure you give guidance or advice only when you are sure of the topic — and of yourself.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) You'll be able to cash in — whereas in days past you've had to wait your turn. Emotional and spiritual rewards are likely to increase.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Risk-taking can yield greater profit, enriching both your soul and your pocketbook. Still, you'll want to trust proven methods.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) You can improve yourself while improving your chances of success; personal and professional issues are closely linked.

- particularly now, when every decision

Diener elewielers Utd Up to 75% Off Today thru Dec. 24

tail Sale
20000 \$45
\$95 \$95
100°° \$295
500 ⁰⁰ *395
500°° *450
250°° *995
950 ⁰⁰ \$1995

PLUS ROLEX, CARTIER, BULGARI WATCHES & MORE!! TIFFANY & CO. & DAVID YURMAN JEWELRY

Diener Jewelers Utd.

Loans • Auctions • Estate Sales • Consignments Diamond Brokers • Appraisers

Mon.-Fri. 10-6pm; Sat. 11-4pm

35 years in business

Bet. 17th & Conn. Ave. 2 blks from Farragut North Metro

1710 M Street, NW 202-872-1710 • 202-452-1919

www.dienerjewelers.com

We ship via Mail

Give the gift of FIT



New Balance Tysons Corner Tysons Corner Ctr. 1 (703)-893-2771

New Balance Washington, D.C. 5301 Wisconsin Ave. (202)-237-1840

new balance

Weekend Pass. Thursdays.

express

PUBLISHER—**Christopher Ma** | General Manager—**Arnie Applebaum** | Editor—**Da**n EXPLES | CACCAVARO | NEWS EDITOR-GREG BARBER | SECTION EDITORS-ARION BERGER, MAUREEN HOCH, CHRIS MINCHER, HOLLY MORRIS, MATT SWENSON, KIMBERLY TABOR

ART DIRECTOR—SCOTT MCCARTHY | PAGE DESIGN—JODI BAFUNDO | PRODUCTION—MATTHEW LIDDI | PHOTO-MARCIA HARDER | COPY CHIEF-COLLEEN MARZEC | CONTENT DEVELOPERS-DANNY FREEDMAN, DARONA WILLIAMS | PUBLISHED BY EXPRESS PUBLICATIONS COMPANY, LLC PO BOX 17370 ARLINGTON, VA 22216 | A SUBSIDIARY OF THE WASHINGTON POST COMPANY | MAIN NUMBER:
703-469-2800 | FAX: 703-469-2831 | CIRCULATION INQUIRIES: 202-334-6992 OR E-MAIL CIRCULATION READEXPRESS.COM | ADVERTISING INQUIRIES: CALL BOB KEENAN AT 202-334-6025 OR E-MAIL ADS@READEXPRESS.COM



WRITE TO EXPRESS: Letters must include the writer's name, address and telephone number. Submissions may be edited for space. E-mail to inbox@readexpress.com or mail to Express Letters, PO Box 17370. Arlington, VA 22216.



Landmark Mall

703-750-0404

5801 Duke St Alexandria, VA Mon-Sat 10a-9:30p & Sun 11a-6p



Fairfax Store

703-359-9299

10390 Lee Highway Fairfax VA 22030 Mon-Sat 10a-6p & Sun 12n-5p